



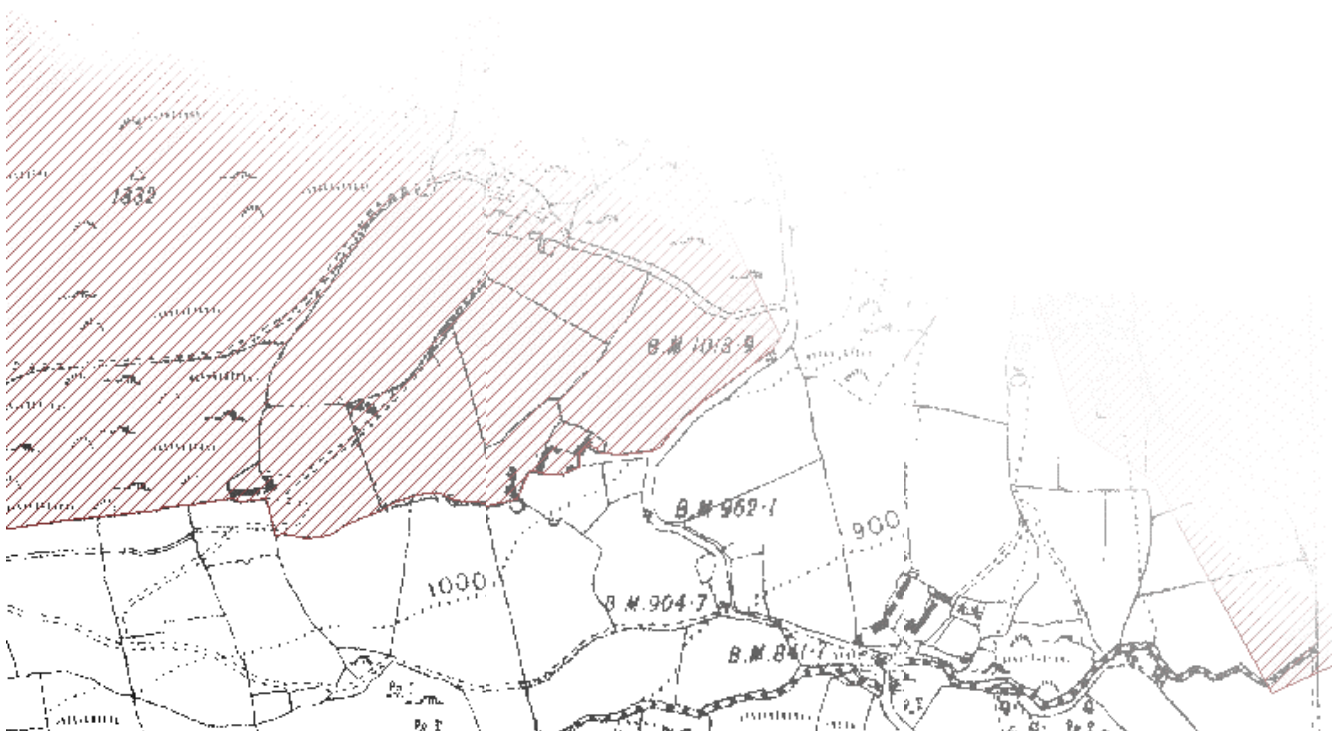
National Parks and Wildlife Service Conservation Plan for 2005-2010



Ardmore Head cSAC

Site Code 2123

Co Waterford



SUMMARY

Introduction

Ardmore Head cSAC has been designated as a candidate Special Area of Conservation under the EU Habitats Directive. The site has been designated due to the presence of two Annex I habitats listed under the EU Habitats Directive, namely European dry heaths and vegetated sea cliffs.

Description of Ardmore Head cSAC

Ardmore Head cSAC is situated on a small headland to the east of the village of Ardmore, on the west Waterford coastline. In addition to the presence of the two Annex I habitats, Chough (an Annex I species listed in the EU Birds Directive) also occurs within the site. The presence of a nationally important colony of breeding Kittiwakes and other seabirds adds to the ecological interest of the site.

The dominant terrestrial habitat within the site is dry coastal heath, which is best viewed west of Ram Head. Species present include an abundance of Heather, with Bell Heather, Western Gorse, Wood Sage and Bent Grasses. In the eastern part of the site, the heath occurs as a mosaic with dry grassland and is dominated by Burnet Rose.

The vegetated sea cliffs are of moderate height (up to 40 m), continuous and precipitous. They are also well indented, and have numerous small ledges that support breeding seabirds. The aspect of the cliffs is mostly east and south-facing, but there is a small section facing north. Cliff vegetation consists of Sea Spurrey, Sea Campion, Sea Thrift, Buck's-horn Plantain and Scurvy Grass. Other flora includes Sea Beet, Yarrow and Wild Carrot.

The heath also merges into dry grassland, especially at Ardmore Head. Here, Cocksfoot, Bent Grasses, Bramble, Black Knapweed and Wild Thyme dominate the grassland. The site also contains associated coastal habitats. In places below the cliffs, there are boulder and shingle shorelines. Rocky islets and sea stacks, which are continuously washed over, also occur. An area of open marine water is included within the site, partly to give some protection to the seabirds that nest on the ledges above.

Land use at the site consists of tourism and low-level recreational use. A well-worn path is located along the cliff for much of the site and is regularly used for walking. The historical monuments within the site, such as St. Declan's holy well and old ruined church at the north of the site, also attract visitors. Drift net fishing, scuba diving and recreational fishing are carried out in the sea surrounding the site.

Main conservation objectives

- To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status; vegetated sea cliffs (25%) and European dry heaths (23%)
- To maintain other habitats at favourable conservation status, including open marine waters (33%), dry-humid acid grassland (10%), scrub (4%), exposed rocky shore and shingle beaches (3%), amenity grassland (<1%), non-calcareous springs (<1%), stonewalls and other stonework (<1%), hedgerows (<1%) and sea inlets and bays (part of 33% open marine water)
- To maintain the populations of notable species at favourable conservation status, including Chough, Peregrine Falcon and sea bird colonies that occur within the site
- To increase public awareness and appreciation of the conservation value of the site
- To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities

Main management issues

- Amenity use
- Need for further scientific research
- Residential and other development in adjacent areas
- Value as an educational resource

Main strategies to achieve objectives

- Monitor extent of scrub encroachment on Annex I habitats, namely European dry heath, through regular patrolling and by use of aerial photographs
- Monitor the potential impact of amenity use within and adjacent to the site to ensure that activities do not cause damage and trampling
- Continue monitoring bird usage by Annex I species within the site
- Provide public display information and publish a leaflet on the conservation value of the site

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Map 2 Indicative Habitat Map

Map 3 Management Zoning Map

READER'S GUIDE

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) has produced this plan to provide ecological information about the site and to outline the main objectives for the conservation of the special features of the site. The purpose of this draft is to provide stakeholders the opportunity to input into the development of the plan.

The **Introduction** section outlines the **policy background** to the site's designation and the relevant legislation.

The **Site Description** section contains **general information** on the site's boundaries and ownership and on the statutory bodies with responsibility for its conservation. It also contains sections on the **physical aspects** of the site such as the geology and hydrology as well as the **biological features**, in particular, the habitats and species found there. **Land use** and cultural features are also described.

The **Conservation Value** section assesses the main ecological attributes of the site.

The **Management Framework** section outlines the management necessary for the conservation of the site. It starts with a set of specific **conservation objectives**. These are followed by the main **management issues** that may impact on the conservation of the site and the **strategies** that are proposed to achieve the conservation objectives. In the final section, the site is divided into management **zones** to indicate where each strategy applies.

The appendices include a **glossary** where scientific and technical terms are explained, **reference material** consulted in the preparation of the plan and a list of **notifiable actions** relevant to each habitat within the site.

By preparing, implementing and reviewing this plan on a five-year basis, DEHLG aims to achieve the objectives of the EU Habitats Directive in relation to this site.

INTRODUCTION

Legal Background for Conservation Plans

The legal basis for selection and designation of **Special Areas of Conservation** (SACs) is the **EU Habitats Directive**, which was adopted in 1992. Focusing on the conservation of natural and semi-natural habitats and species of flora and fauna, the Habitats Directive seeks to establish “Natura 2000”, a network of protected areas throughout the European Community. The Habitats Directive includes a list of habitats that require SAC designation and specific conservation measures. This list is known as Annex I and the habitats are referred to as Annex I habitats. On this list, habitats that require special attention because they are in danger of disappearance, are termed ‘priority habitats’. A second list, Annex II in the Habitats Directive comprises species that must be afforded special protection.

In Ireland, the habitats and species that must be afforded protection under the Habitats Directive include:

- 16 Annex I priority habitats that require particular attention – including raised bogs, active blanket bogs, turloughs and machair,
- 45 other Annex I habitats – such as certain types of heaths, lakes and woodlands,
- 25 Annex II species – including Otter, Freshwater Pearl Mussel and Killarney Fern.

It is the responsibility of each member state to designate SACs to protect the Annex I habitats and Annex II species. These sites, together with the **Special Protection Areas** (SPAs) designated under the **EU Birds Directive** (1979), form the European “Natura 2000” network.

The Birds Directive contains annexes, which are lists of birds that require particular conservation measures (Annex I), and also species that may be hunted, and species that may be sold. There are 28 Annex I species regularly occurring in Ireland including Whooper Swan, Greenland White-fronted Goose, Peregrine Falcon, Corncrake and Terns. Member states are also required to protect sites that are important for migratory species such as ducks, geese and waders.

The Habitats Directive was transposed into Irish law through the **European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997**. The **Wildlife Act 1976** is the main statute governing the protection of wildlife in Ireland and was amended in 2000 to take account of European law, particularly the Habitats and Birds Directives. The **Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000** also makes legal provision for the designation and protection of a national network of **Natural Heritage Areas** (NHAs). Over 1,100 proposed NHAs were published in 1995 and almost 400 of these are also selected as candidate SACs.

The European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 include the following points:

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government must transmit a candidate list of sites to the European Commission for consideration.

Following adoption of this list by the Commission, the Minister will formally designate the sites as SACs.

Sites are legally protected once they are publicly advertised.

Landowners and other users with a legal entitlement should be notified of designation, and the Minister must make all reasonable efforts to do so. Notification also includes a list of activities that may alter, damage, destroy or interfere with the integrity of the site. A person who illegally damages a site may be prosecuted or required to repair damage.

Landowners and other users with a legal entitlement may appeal the designation of lands on scientific grounds.

Landowners and other users with a legal entitlement will be compensated for actual loss of income arising from restrictions imposed as a result of designation.

DEHLG is the government department with responsibility for the designation and protection of wildlife habitats, species and areas of conservation interest. As part of their responsibility in relation to biodiversity and wildlife under the Wildlife Acts (1976 and 2000), the Minister's brief extends far beyond the habitats and species listed in the annexes of the Habitats and Birds Directives. For this reason, cSAC conservation plans may deal with species that are not mentioned in these annexes.

Reasons for Designation of Ardmore Head cSAC

HABITATS LISTED IN ANNEX I OF THE EU HABITATS DIRECTIVE	CONSERVATION VALUE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts (EU Habitat Code 1230) 	The site contains a 1km stretch of steep to vertical cliffs, which are intact and largely undisturbed. The cliffs host breeding pairs of Chough, as well as a summer colony of Kittiwake, which is of national importance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European dry heaths (EU Habitat Code 4030) 	A fairly small, but good, examples of maritime heath, grading into scrub and grassland. It contains typical flora and is relatively undisturbed.

Implications of Site Designation for Landowners and other Site Users

In most areas designated as cSACs, current practices will not have to change significantly.

In cases where users with a legal entitlement are required to change practices or restrict activities to protect the wildlife interest of the site, compensation will be payable based on actual loss of income.

If a user with a legal entitlement wishes to carry out certain activities, not covered by licence or consent from another statutory body, within the designated area, they must consult with, and get consent from, the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. These activities are listed as "Notifiable Actions" for each habitat (see Appendix V).

The designation of the site can be appealed by landowners and legal users on scientific grounds. Details of the appeals procedure are also given in Appendix VI.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Location Including Site Boundaries

This site is situated on a small headland to the east of the village of Ardmore on the west Waterford coastline (Map 1).

Grid Ref.: N 76750; 219800

Latitude: N 51°56'20"

Longitude: W 07°42'32"

Area: 30 ha

Altitude Range: 0 m to 58 m

Townlands: Dysert



Ardmore Head cSAC, photo D. Dunnells.

Site Boundaries

The terrestrial boundaries of the site generally follow the cliff walk or field boundaries adjacent to it. These boundaries follow the original area identified as an Area of Scientific Interest. The seaward boundary was included to provide a protective zone around breeding seabird colonies. The westward boundary of the site contains dry heath and vegetated sea cliffs habitat.

Site Infrastructure

The main access through the site is along the cliff walk, a popular walking path and public right of way which winds across the site providing viewing over the two main headlands – Ardmore Head and Ram Head. The only buildings within the site are the ruins of St. Declan’s church, two holy wells and an old World War Two watchtower. Ruins of a drilling platform, the ‘Samson’, are washed up below the cliffs at Ardmore Head.

Legal Status

Ownership

The terrestrial part of the site is in multiple private ownership. The foreshore and open marine waters up the high water mark are state-owned.

Designations of the Site

candidate Special Area of Conservation	Sitecode IE0002123	Published on 1 st July 1999
proposed Natural Heritage Area	Sitecode 2123	Unpublished
Area of High Amenity	The cSAC is also listed as an Area of High Amenity in the Waterford County Development Plan, 1992.	

Past Status and Designation of the Site

The area was identified as a Geological Area of Scientific Interest (no. 9), for the presence of lead mines dating back to the mid 17th century, on Ardmore Head (Cowman, 1993).

Government Departments and Agencies

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG)	DEHLG is the government department with responsibility for the protection and conservation of Ireland’s natural heritage.
National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS)	NPWS is the section of the DEHLG responsible for maintaining the nature conservation value of the site. Periodic inspection of the site is carried out by the local Conservation Ranger. Regional staff also participate in research and survey projects by collecting data on the site, provide advice to planning authorities on the impacts of development applications and provide an education and advisory service to the public (see Appendix VII) for further details of NPWS regional staff.

Waterford County Council	Waterford County Council is the planning authority for the site. As such they are obliged to ensure appropriate assessment of the implications of developments requiring planning permission that may have an impact, either individually, or in combination with other developments, on the designated area.
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	The EPA is an independent state sponsored body with a wide range of statutory duties including monitoring environmental quality and overseeing the performance by local authorities of their statutory environmental protection functions.
Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources (DCMNR)	The DCMNR is responsible for licensing and regulating fishing, aquaculture, commercial and other development below mean high water; and under Regulation 31 of the EU Natural Habitats Regulations, for ensuring that such activities in the cSAC do not adversely affect it. Monitoring functions are carried out by individual divisions of the department and by the executive agencies under its direction namely the Central and Regional Fisheries Boards, The Marine Institute and an Bord Iascaigh Mhara.

Local Authority Policy in relation to the Site

In the current Waterford County Development Strategy (2002), there is no specific reference to candidate SACs or any other statutory nature conservation designation. However, the policy document states that one of its objectives is to develop a comprehensive heritage programme for the county, with the support of NPWS and to establish bye-laws so that all new building developments will respect the culture and heritage of the County. A new County Development Plan is in preparation and it is proposed that it will list Ardmore Head as cSAC, SPA and pNHA and as an area of geological interest.

In the County Development Plan (1999), there is no reference to cSACs but Ardmore Head is shown on corresponding maps as an NHA and is listed as an ASI. The policy section states that “*it is the policy of the Council to protect all areas of scientific interest and their environs.... Broad scale policies for forestry, tourism and water management will be assessed for their ecological consequences*”. The previous County Development Plan (1992) shows the coastal area as an Area of High Amenity. The zoning classification lists it as an area “*to provide for preservation and improvement of coastside amenity for day recreation and preservation of views and prospects over the coastline.*”

Physical Features

Climate

The site is positioned adjacent to the open sea and the steep cliffs and heath covered headlands are fully exposed to prevailing winds, sea spray and ocean storms.

The closest synoptic weather station to the site is the Rosslare station, and 30-Year Average information for this station was obtained from the Met Eireann website and the full details are in Appendix III. In summary, the mean daily air temperature at the station is 10.1°C, ranging from an average low of 6.1°C in January to an average high of 15.0°C in July. The average annual rainfall is 877.1 mm, and the average daily duration of sunshine is 4.33 hours. Winds are predominantly from the south-west, with an average wind speed of 11.5 knots. There is an annual average of 10.7 days with snow or sleet recorded for the Rosslare station, but only 1.8 days where snow was still lying on the ground by 9am.

Geology & Geomorphology

The site is underlain by slightly metamorphosed siltstones of the Old Red Sandstone formation, which form part of the Ardmore Syncline (Herries Davies and Stephens, 1978). Geologically the sandstone has been removed, either through erosion or faulting, from the east of the site. Large sections of these layered sediments, which have been folded into dramatic undulating formations, can be viewed from the cliff walk. The sea cliffs are affected by erosion caused by wave action, resulting in the formation of numerous sea stacks and small islets.

Soils & Soil Processes

Soils in the site mainly comprise acid brown earths derived from mixed sandstone and limestone-rich glacial till (Gardiner and Radford, 1991).

Hydrology & Water Quality

The only surface water present within the site comes from small springs. Two holy wells have been developed over these springs – St. Declan’s well just outside Ardmore village and Fr. O’Donnell’s well on the western side of the site, along the coastal walk.

Biological Features

Habitats and Vegetation

Note: Throughout the conservation plan, habitats are named and described under two different systems: the Annex I habitats are as listed in the EU Habitats Interpretation Manual Version 15/2(1999), while all other habitats are as listed according to the classification system of ‘A Guide to Habitats in Ireland’ (Fossitt, 2000).

The following table lists the habitats within the site. The Annex I habitats of the Habitats Directive for which the site was selected are listed, with the relevant Guide to Habitats category also shown. The Indicative Habitat map for the site is presented in Map 2. The percentage area shown for each habitat type is based on the approximate geographic area of each habitat, as shown in Map 2.

Habitats Found within Ardmore Head cSAC

ANNEX I HABITAT TYPE	HABITAT CATEGORY	% AREA
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts (EU Code 1230)	Rocky sea cliffs (CS1)/ Sea stacks and islets (CS2)	25% (20%/ 5% respectively)
European dry heaths (EU Code 4030)	Dry siliceous heath (HH1)	23%
-	Open marine water (MW1)/ Sea inlets and bays (MW2)	33%
-	Dry-humid acid grassland (GS3)	10%
-	Scrub (WS1)	4%
-	Exposed rocky shore (LR1)/ Shingle beaches (LS1)	3%
-	Amenity grassland (improved) (GA2)	<1%
-	Non-calcareous springs (FP2)	<1%
-	Stone walls and other stonework (BL1)	<1%
-	Hedgerows (WL1)	<1% (not mapped)

Annex I Habitats:

Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts (EU code 1230) (25% of total site area or 8ha)

The sea cliffs comprise over 1km of precipitous, nearly vertical cliffs of moderate height (up to 40m). The aspect of the cliffs is mostly east and south-facing, though there is also a small section facing north. Among the cliffs are numerous steep, narrow inlets, particularly to the south facing coasts, which provide ideal sheltered locations for breeding seabirds. There are many small ledges on all sections of the cliffs that provide suitable nesting and roost perches.

On cliffs tops and on some of the ledges, the vegetation consists of Rock Samphire (*Crithmum maritimum*), Sea Lavender (*Aster tripolium*), Sea Campion (*Silene maritima*), Thrift (*Armeria maritima*), Sea Beet (*Beta vulgaris*), Sea Spurrey (*Spergularia* spp.), Buck’s-horn Plantain (*Plantago coronopus*) and Scurvy Grass (*Cochleria* spp.), with occasional Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) and Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*).

There are numerous sea islets, sea stacks and areas of fallen bedrock adjacent to the cliffs, particularly on the south side of the site, the most exposed part.

**European dry heaths
(EU code 4030) (23%
of total site area or
7ha)**

The dominant terrestrial habitat is dry coastal heath (which is best viewed west of Ram Head). The heath is situated on relatively steep slopes overlooking the sea and is undisturbed by people and livestock. It is presently ungrazed.

Species present include an abundance of Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), with Bell Heather (*Erica cinerea*), Western Gorse (*Ulex gallii*), Wood Sage (*Teucrium scordonia*) and Bent Grasses (*Agrostis* spp.). Areas not dominated by ericaceous species often contain a good diversity of herbaceous species. Species occurring include Wild Carrot, Milkwort (*Polygala serpyllifolia*), Perforate St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), Scentless Mayweed (*Tripleurospermum maritimum*), Long-stalked Crane's Bill (*Geranium columbinum*), Devil's Bit Scabious (*Succisa pratensis*), Field Scabious (*Knautia arvensis*), Lady's Bedstraw (*Galium verum*), Burnet Rose (*Rosa pimpinellifolia*), Black Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), Wild Thyme (*Thymus* spp.). Several vetches also occur including Bush Vetch (*Vicia sepium*), Common Vetch (*V. sativa*), Meadow Vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*) and Common Bird's Foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*).

On Ardmore Head, Burnet Rose is more common and dry grassland is often interspersed with the heath areas creating a rough grassland/ heath mosaic. Maritime dry heath formation in the north-west corner of the site grades into scrub. In some of the headland areas between Ardmore and Ram Head, Western Gorse forms a dominant part of the vegetation.

Other Habitats:

**Open marine water
(MW1)/ Sea inlets and
bays (MW2)**

The open waters adjacent to the cliffs and surrounding all the sea stacks and islets are also included in the site. In addition to Grey Seals and other marine species, the open sea water is used by diving seabirds (see Bird Section below).

Small sea inlets occur along the coast. Several inlets to the west of Ram Head, such as Coolabeg and Coolamore, are bounded by very steep-sided cliffs that provide ideal, inaccessible ledges for nesting seabirds.

**Dry-humid acid
grassland (GS3)**

On the eastern side of the site where heath merges into dry grassland, Cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*), Bent Grasses and Fescues (*Festuca* spp.) typify vegetation, with some Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), Black Knapweed and Wild Thyme also occurring. Tall grass swards north of the path also include Hare's Foot Clover (*Trifolium arvense*), Clovers (*T. pratense* and *T. repens*), Perennial Rye Grass (*Lolium perenne*), Black Medick (*Medicago lupulina*), Scarlet Pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*) and small numbers of Cowslip (*Primula veris*).

Where the underlying clay soil is exposed, the flora diversifies and includes aforementioned species indicative of coastal influence, such as Sea-Spurrey, Sea Campion, Scurvy Grass, Sea Beet and Buck's-horn Plantain.

Scrub (WS1)

At the north of the site near St. Declan's Well, small patches of very dense scrub occur. Species occurring include Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Willow (*Salix* spp.), Bramble, Honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*), Willowherb (*Epilobium* spp.), Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), Wild Garlic (*Allium ursinum*), with some Wild Celery (*Apium graveolens*) and garden escapes such as *Rosa rugosa*. The understorey consists of Ramsons (*Allium odoratum*). This habitat provides good cover for birds such as Thrushes.

Exposed rocky shore (LR1)/ Shingle beach (LS1)	Bedrock shore is present below the cliffs throughout the site. A number of shingle beaches occur on the foreshore. Most foreshore areas are inaccessible except the area just to the east of Ardmore village.
Amenity grassland (improved) (GA2)	A small area of amenity grassland occurs around St. Declan's well and church. The grass around the church is mown regularly and is maintained by the County Council.
Non-calcareous springs (FP2)	Two small springs and one small stream running down from Fr. O'Donnells well occur within the site.
Stone walls and other stonework (BL1)	Ruins of old walls and historical buildings, such as St. Declan's Well and the Dysert Church, and a structure around Fr. O'Donnells well are included in the site. These are often colonised by White Stonecrop (<i>Sedum album</i>), Pennywort (<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>), Ivy (<i>Hedera helix</i>), Ivy-leaved Toadflax (<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>) and frequent ferns such as Harts-tongue Fern (<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>), Common Polypody (<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>) and Spleenwort Fern (<i>Asplenium</i> spp.). Old walls also form many of the boundary embankments within the site. Many are overgrown by heath and scrub.
Hedgerows (WL1)	A number of small hedgerows occur in the north-east part of the site, mainly comprised of species listed under Scrub.

Notable Flora:

No rare or protected plant species are known to occur within the site. The site was surveyed by Dr. Paul Green of the Botanical Society of the British Isles, the data from which are pending.

Fauna:

Invertebrates

No detailed survey information is available. However, the heath and dry grassland areas appear to attract a number of butterfly species. Lobster potting occurs in the open marine waters, often very close to the shore.

Fish

Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) occur within the site.

Reptiles

Common Lizard (*Lacerta vivipara*) occurs within heath habitat in the site.

Birds

A number of bird species listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive, and other notable species, occur within the site. The site is regularly monitored by the NPWS Conservation Ranger. Additional information is provided by the Seabird 2000 survey (Mitchell *et al.*, 2004), as well as reports by Birdwatch Ireland (detailed information is provided in Appendix IV; references in Appendix II).

Annex I Bird Species known to occur within the Site

Species Name	Scientific Name	Comments
Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Have been recorded in open waters within the site.
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	An occasional spring and autumn visitor (P. Smiddy, <i>pers. comm.</i> , 2004).
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Noted flying over on occasion, known to nest in adjacent area (P. Smiddy, <i>pers. comm.</i> , 2003).
Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Has occurred on the site in winter (P. Smiddy, <i>pers. comm.</i> , 2004).
Chough	<i>Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax</i>	1-2 pairs nest on the southern cliffs west of Ram Head. A non-breeding flock of between 10 to 20 birds also occurs (recorded within the site and adjacent areas in the 2002 survey, P. Smiddy, <i>pers. comm.</i> , 2003)

Chough (*Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax*)

The site supports important colonies of breeding seabirds. The most numerous breeding species is the Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*). The population has declined somewhat in recent years from >1000 pairs (1985-1989) to 522 pairs in 1999 (Mitchell *et al.*, 2004). However, the colony still constitutes 1.1% of an estimated national total of 49,160 pairs (Mitchell *et al.*, 2004) and represents a population of National Importance.

The low cliffs with many ledges are very suitable for nesting Kittiwakes, and also host nesting Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*), Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*), Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo carbo*), Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*), Great Black-Backed Gull (*Larus marinus*), Guillemot (*Uria aalge*) and Razorbill (*Alca torda*) (See Appendix IV for more details).

The open sea water is used by many diving birds including Cormorant, Razorbill, Guillemot and Red-Throated Diver (*Gavia stellata*).

Breeding passerines, with a scarce or restricted range that breed on the coastal strip include Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), House Martin (*Delichon urbica*), Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*), Rock Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta*), Stonechat (*Saxicola torquata*), Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*), Linnet (*Carduelis cannabina*) and Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*). Common species such as Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*), Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*), Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*), Blackbird (*Turdus merula*) and Rock Dove (*Columba livia*) also breed at the site (P. Smiddy, *pers. comm.*, 2003). Other birds that have been noted within the site include Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*), Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*) and Blue Tit (*Parus caeruleus*). Of particular interest from recent

sightings, is the presence of two Annex I species, Short-Eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) and Hen Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*). Seal pups have been noted in 2 different locations within the site.

Mammals

Grey Seal (*Halichoerus grypus*), an Annex II species under the Habitats Directive, are occasionally seen within open waters in the site in small groups or as individuals. Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), Irish Hare (*Lepus timidus hibernicus*), Badger (*Meles meles*) and Otter (*Lutra lutra*) frequent the site. Cetacean species are commonly seen off Ardmore Head (<http://www.iwdg.ie/iscope/default.asp?county=1193&location=149&species=&resultsFormat=table&search1=Search>). Harbour porpoise (*Phocaena phocaena*), recorded at the site, are listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive. Dolphin species have been recorded but it is unknown if these are Bottle-nosed (*Tursiops truncatus*), also Annex II species. A pod of up to 20 Common Dolphins (*Delphinus delphis*) has been seen in the vicinity of the site, from Fr. O'Donnell's well. Irish Hare are listed as Internationally Important in the Irish Red Data Book (Whilde, 1993).

Land Use

Land use on the site

Conservation management	Birdwatch Ireland carry out regular seabird counts on sea cliffs within the site.
Amenity use and tourism	A walking path stretches all the way around the headland and is regularly used for walking by local residents and visitors. The Ardmore Enterprise group have produced a leaflet on historical monuments along the Cliff Walk and in the surrounding area. The historical monuments within the site, such as St. Declan's church and holy well are well-known tourist attractions. Whale and dolphin watching takes place on Ram Head.
Boating and fishing	Recreational fishing (angling) is carried out at a number of places along the base of the cliff, particularly during the summer months. The open marine waters are used for some lobster fishing, as well as drift netting for Atlantic Salmon on a seasonal basis (in June and July).
Other recreational use	Recreational boating and scuba diving occur within the site. The wreck of the Sampson is used as a platform for scuba diving training.

Land use adjacent to the site

Agriculture	Surrounding lands at the southern end of the site are primarily used for arable crops such as carrots and sugar beet, or as pasture for cattle, sheep and horses.
Residential and commercial dwellings	Residential development is spreading adjacent to the north-eastern part of the site (adjacent to Ardmore village). Several new houses have been built in recent years. There are currently plans to expand the Cliff Hotel, at the north-west corner of the site.
Tourism and recreation	Ardmore is a popular sea side resort with a large beach and adjacent caravan parks, which are used in summer.
Commercial fishing	Drift net fishing for Salmon, as well as lobster potting, is carried out in the sea surrounding the site.

Past human use

The site may have been grazed in the past, but no specific information is available on grazing regimes. The heath on the south-western end of the site has been burnt in the past to control scrub vegetation.

The lookout post overlooking Ram Head was built in 1940 and used during World War II by coast watch personnel to log all ships and aircraft that passed. The cliff area was used as a lookout by the coastguards. A coastguard station was built adjacent to the site in 1867 and was manned until 1922.

Recorded Monuments and Other Features

St. Declan founded a seminary in Ardmore in circa 416 AD and the ruins of the church (Monument No. WA 040-11, Grid Ref 21984; 7729 in Dysert townland) and holy well date back to this period.

CONSERVATION VALUE OF ARDMORE HEAD cSAC

For a relatively small site, the cSAC contains a good diversity of habitats, and hosts several bird species of interest. Overall, the Annex I Habitats which comprise over 48% of the site area, are relatively undisturbed and of high ecological value.

The European dry heaths present in the site would appear to be a fairly typical example of the type of shrubby dry heath that occurs on the south coast. Overall, the site appears to be representative of the Atlantic *Erica- Ulex* heaths, that is, heaths of the Atlantic margins rich in gorse. The habitat is quite undisturbed as it is ungrazed, generally unburnt, and contains a good diversity of species typical of maritime heath. Encroachment of scrub growth due to lack of grazing is the only factor of concern at present.

The vegetated sea cliffs are a good example of the habitat, supporting a sparse but typical flora for cliffs on the south-east/south coasts of Ireland. They appear to be in a natural state and are under no apparent threat apart from natural erosion, which does not appear a serious problem. They contain a number of small ledges, crevices and sheltered fissures that provided suitable nesting habitats for resident and migrant bird species.

The presence of several Annex I bird species, including Chough, Peregrine, Red-Throated Diver, Hen Harrier and Short-eared Owl as well as a breeding colony of Kittiwake of National Importance, adds to the conservation interest of the site (See Appendix IV for additional information). The long-term monitoring of the Kittiwake population adds to the scientific importance of the site.

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Conservation Objectives

European and national legislation places a collective obligation on Ireland and its citizens to maintain at favourable conservation status areas designated as candidate Special Areas of Conservation. The Government and its agencies are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of regulations that will ensure the ecological integrity of these sites.

According to the EU Habitats Directive, favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when:

- its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and
- the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and
- the conservation status of its typical species is favourable as defined below.

The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when:

- population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and
- the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and
- there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Objective 1: | To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status; vegetated sea cliffs (25%) and European dry heaths (23%). |
| Objective 2: | To maintain other habitats at favourable conservation status, including open marine waters (33%), dry-humid acid grassland (10%), scrub (4%), exposed rocky shore and shingle beaches (3%), amenity grassland (<1%), non-calcareous springs (<1%), stonewalls and other stonework (<1%), hedgerows (<1%) and sea inlets and bays (part of 33% open marine water). |
| Objective 3: | To maintain the populations of notable species at favourable conservation status, including Chough, Peregrine Falcon and sea bird colonies that occur within the site. |
| Objective 4: | To increase public awareness and appreciation of the conservation value of the site. |

Objective 5: To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Management Issues

While many activities in or adjacent to the site have the potential to cause deterioration/disturbance, it is important to determine the significance of such activities relative to the conservation objectives at a particular site. To that end, all known potential environmental effects of the sites principal activities (in alphabetical order) have been listed and the biological and chemical impacts that may cause change to the biological communities present have been described.

- **Amenity use**
- **Need for further scientific research**
- **Residential and other development in adjacent areas**
- **Value as an educational resource**

Amenity use

Amenity and low intensity recreational use, such as walking, is compatible with the conservation interests of the site, but should not have a detrimental impact on habitats or species of interest. Amenity use is cited as a primarily positive modifier in the site. The fact that the site is regularly used and appreciated by so many local residents and visitors is a prime motivation for its continued conservation.

The presence of a walking path along the top of the cliff could pose a threat to the cliff-top vegetation through trampling or burning accidents, but at present visitor pressure is low. In addition to low visitor pressure, the Ardmore Enterprise Co-op are involved in maintaining the cliff walk on a voluntary basis. The group represents landowners and interested parties who also provide information on the cliff walk and features of interest along it and maintain some of the fences and paths along the walk, in conjunction with the County Council. Most walkers tend to stay on the path because of the precipitous nature of the cliffs, and do not venture close to nesting bird colonies. Erosion of the paths is not a problem at present. There is occasional uncontrolled burning within the site, but this generally only occurs adjacent to the path.

Need for further scientific research

Apart from monitoring of selected bird species, such as the Kittiwake colony, there is incomplete information on the biodiversity of the site.

Areas of dry grassland and heath/grassland mosaic appear to host a good diversity of species and warrant further botanical investigation. A number of plants species of interest, such as Cowslip, occur in dry grassland habitat on Ram Head and in an area of rough grassland around the watchtower (currently outside the site). The dry heath and vegetated sea cliffs west of the current site boundary which extend to Goat Island, appear to be of cSAC quality.

In some parts of the site (e.g. between Ardmore village and Ram Head), dry heath habitat is possibly being affected by scrub encroachment, which if allowed to continue, could reduce the area of Annex I habitat. Scrub encroachment needs to be monitored. It is easy to gain access to most of the terrestrial part of the site, so given adequate resources, future research and monitoring are feasible.

There is also no data to evaluate the status of marine and intertidal habitats, or marine fauna such as Grey Seal, within the site.

Residential and other development in adjacent areas

Recent development has occurred adjacent to the cSAC, as former agricultural land has been rezoned for new housing. This has resulted in improved access to the site, and increasing the recreational and amenity pressure on it. The road up to the watchtower (formerly a rough dirt track) is now accessible by cars which have uncontrolled access to the field adjacent to the sea cliffs. There are no distinctive field boundaries separating this area from the cSAC. Increased access poses a threat through increased usage of the site, trampling and other damage to habitats, and disturbance to wildlife species, particularly to nesting bird colonies during the summer months, when visitor activity is higher. Vehicular access may also increase the level of littering and vandalism within the site.

Value as an educational resource

The site is of high conservation value due to the undisturbed and natural state of its habitats, and a range of important species of flora and fauna, e.g. seabird colonies, marine and terrestrial mammals. The site is also in a very scenic area with a wealth of historical features. There is well organised community support for controlled use and conservation of the site. Therefore, the cSAC has good potential as a local educational resource. With the involvement of NPWS, it could be developed as such, in consultation with relevant user groups, such as the Ardmore Tidy Towns and Millennium Committee, 2000, who have erected interpretative signs in Ardmore village describing the birds commonly seen on Ardmore Strand.

General Strategies

Specific strategies that relate to the above objectives are outlined below. However, there are a number of strategies that relate to the site as a whole. These are as follows:

Implement plan

DEHLG will seek to ensure that the aims of this conservation plan are achieved through:

- liaison with the landowners, relevant authorities and interested parties
- implementation of REPS or DEHLG farm plans, which will use this document as a guideline for prescribing management on a farm by farm basis, and also will ensure that the agreed prescriptions for the relevant habitats are adhered to
- enforcement of Regulations under the Habitats/Birds Directives and the Wildlife Acts
- enforcement of other relevant legislation such as the Environmental Impact Assessment and Local Planning Acts

Establish a monitoring regime

The monitoring regime for the site will comprise:

Scientific monitoring	Monitoring of the conservation status of the vegetated sea cliffs, European dry heaths and Annex I bird species will be done by, or on behalf of, the staff of the Monitoring Section of the NPWS or staff working to NPWS in accordance with the procedures laid down by that section. Protocols for monitoring Ardmore Head cSAC will be developed, in consultation with other agencies where appropriate, to determine if the site is being maintained at favourable conservation status.
Site surveillance	Regular inspection of the site by the NPWS staff, with special attention to the vegetated sea cliffs, European dry heaths, Annex I bird species and sea bird colonies will identify any major changes, damaging operations, or threats should they arise.

Enforce notifiable actions

Certain activities may be restricted in SACs. Notifiable Actions for particular habitats and species are listed in Appendix IV of this plan. Consent from the Minister may be required before these actions may be carried out within the designated area. For example, creation of new tracks, dumping, burning or storing of materials, operation of commercial recreation facilities (e.g. pony trekking), grazing by livestock treated within the previous week with a pesticide which leaves persistent residues in the dung and reclamation, infilling, ploughing and land drainage are relevant notifiable actions for the site.

Specific Strategies

Objective 1.

To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status; vegetated sea cliffs (25%) and European dry heaths (23%).

Strategies:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1.1. Maintain European dry heaths | The current extent of dry heath should be maintained, and scrub growth must be prevented from encroaching on this habitat. The extent of heath will be assessed and monitored during regular patrolling (and by use of aerial photographs). |
| 1.2. Monitor impact of amenity use | NPWS will monitor the impact of amenity use of the site during site surveillance work, to ensure that activities do not cause damage. NPWS will liaise with the Local Authority and landowners concerning the maintenance of paths to minimize trampling of adjacent habitats. |
| 1.3. Maintain vegetated sea cliffs | The cliffs are not currently threatened in any way except from natural processes of erosion. A strategy of non-intervention will apply. |
| 1.4. Conduct further survey work | NPWS will conduct further ecological surveys of heath and vegetated cliff habitat to the west of the current cSAC to determine if they are of suitable quality to merit inclusion in the site. |

Objective 2.

To maintain other habitats at favourable conservation status, including open marine waters (33%), dry-humid acid grassland (10%), scrub (4%), exposed rocky shore and shingle beaches (3%), amenity grassland (<1%), non-calcareous springs (<1%), stonewalls and other stonework (<1%), hedgerows (<1%) and sea inlets and bays (part of 33% open marine water).

Strategies:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2.1. Maintain other terrestrial habitats | The area of lowland dry grassland and scrub should be monitored as per Strategy 1.1 to ensure that it also does not encroach on heath habitat. For all other habitats, namely streams and springs, old walls and hedgerows, a strategy of non-intervention will apply. |
| 2.2. Maintain marine and intertidal habitats | Activities affecting open marine waters, small inlets and bays and bedrock shore within the site are regulated by the DCMNR. NPWS staff will liaise with them in relation to any foreshore applications within the site, and will collate and review this information where necessary. |

Objective 3.

To maintain the populations of notable species on the site at favourable conservation status, including Chough, Peregrine Falcon and sea bird colonies that occur within the site.

Strategies:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 3.1. Maintain bird populations | Strategies listed under Objectives 1 and 2 that aim to maintain appropriate habitats for qualifying species are the main mechanisms for conserving bird species of interest. |
| 3.2. Continue to monitor bird usage | Bird monitoring of Annex I species is carried out by the NPWS and will continue. NPWS will also continue to encourage scientific research and monitoring programmes by other interest groups such as Birdwatch. Birdwatch Ireland will monitor the Kittiwake colony under their Breeding Seabird survey programme. |

Objective 4.

To increase public awareness and appreciation of the conservation value of the site.

Strategies:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 4.1. Provide information for interpretative displays | NPWS will provide information on the species and habitats of conservation interest within the site and liaise with local interest groups and the Local Authority on the best method and locations to publicly display this information. |
| 4.2. Publish a leaflet on nature conservation of the site | NPWS will compile and publish a leaflet on nature conservation of the site, covering issues such as the importance of habitats and species within the site. |

Objective 5.

To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Strategies:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 5.1. Liaise with interested parties | NPWS will strive to initiate and maintain effective liaison with landowners, legal users (particularly through the Liaison Committee), relevant authorities and interested parties on achieving the objectives for conservation of the site. |
| 5.2. Liaise with REPS planners | REPS planners should consult with local NPWS staff when they are developing plans for land within the site. |

Zoning

Note: Zoning is the division of a nature conservation site and neighbouring areas into a number of sub-units. Four types of zones are identified (not necessarily all occurring within a site): A, B and C are zone types within the site. D is a zone type outside the site where activities may have an impact on the site. The relevant strategies are listed for each site.

Zone A: A Natural Zone

Areas of high conservation value, that require no or little management intervention.

1A: NON-INTERVENTION AREAS

1A1: Vegetated sea cliffs, sea stacks and islets, open marine water, sea inlet and bays, exposed rocky shore, shingle beaches, non-calcareous springs, stonewalls and other stonework and hedgerows

Strategies 1.2-1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2 and the general strategies apply.

2A: MAINTENANCE AREAS WITH LIMITED MANAGEMENT INTERVENTION

2A1: European dry heaths, dry grassland and scrub

Strategies 1.1-1.4, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2 and the general strategies apply.

Zone C: Intensive use Zone

Intensively used areas/infrastructure, which form an integral part of a nature conservation site.

C1: Amenity grassland and old walls at St Declan's Well and church, look-out post and Fr O'Donnell's holy well

Strategies 2.1, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2 and the general strategies apply.

Zone D: Impact Zone

Areas outside the site where activities may have an impact on the site.

D1: Area around watchtower which currently accessible to cars

Strategies 3.1, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1 and the general strategies apply.

Summary of Specific Strategies

Note: It is implicit with all the strategies presented that their implementation is dependent on availability of adequate resources in terms of staff, expertise and financial resources. Also, that cooperation with landowners and other key stakeholders is key to achieving the stated objectives.

	Strategy	Action required	Who to implement	When/Duration/Frequency	Estimated Total Cost	Additional Resources needed
1.1	Maintain European dry heaths	Assess and monitor extent of dry heath during regular patrolling (and by use of aerial photographs).	Conservation Ranger (CR)/ Regional Management (RM)	Once a year		
1.2	Monitor impact of amenity use	Monitor amenity use of the site to ensure that activities do not cause damage and trampling	CR	Once a year, during summer months		
1.3	Maintain vegetated sea cliffs	No intervention required.	-	-		
1.4	Conduct further survey work	Survey areas of potential cSAC quality outside the current site boundaries.	CR/ Designations Unit	By 2005		
2.1	Maintain other terrestrial habitats	Monitor extent of scrub to ensure that it also does not encroach on heath habitat.	CR	Once a year		
2.2	Maintain marine and intertidal habitats	Liaise with DCMNR regarding foreshore licences.	NPWS/ DCMNR			
3.1	Maintain bird populations	See Strategies 1.1-1.4 and 2.1-2.2.	-	-		
3.2	Continue to monitor bird usage	Continue to monitor Annex I species. Continue to encourage scientific research and monitoring programmes by other interest groups (eg Birdwatch).	CR/Birdwatch	Within 5 year period of the plan.		
4.1	Provide information for interpretative displays	NPWS will provide information on the species and habitats of conservation interest within the site and publicly display this information.	CR/RM	Within 5 year period of the plan.		
4.2	Publish a leaflet on nature conservation of the site	NPWS will compile and publish a leaflet on nature conservation of the site.	CR/RM	Within 5 year period of the plan.		
5.1	Liaise with interested parties	Maintain effective liaison with interested parties regarding the achievement of conservation objectives.	CR/RM	On-going.		
5.2	Liaise with REPS planners	REPS planners must consult with NPWS when developing plans for land within the site.	REPS Planner/ CR	Where necessary		

APPENDIX I: GLOSSARY

ALTITUDE - Vertical height above sea level.

ANNEX I - of the EU Birds Directive, lists birds that are strictly protected so that they cannot be killed, captured, disturbed or traded.

ANNEX I - of the EU Habitats Directive, lists habitats including priority habitats for which SACs have to be designated.

ANNEX II - of the EU Habitats Directive is a list of species for which SACs have to be designated.

AQUACULTURE - The use of cages, tanks, troughs or artificial substrates to raise invertebrates (e.g. oysters, mussels or clams) or finned fish in marine or freshwater environments. (This does not cover lakes which have been stocked for angling). It can occur onshore, intertidally or subtidally and be intensive or extensive in nature. Intensive aquaculture involves growing stock at high densities with the aid of artificial structures (e.g. caged fin-fish, suspended mussels, clams under nets and oysters in bags). In extensive aquaculture stock is usually grown on the seabed at lower densities, harvesting involves simply collecting marine organisms (wild fish, shellfish, worms and seaweed).

AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT – Rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, springs and features that depend on natural waters e.g. marsh, bogs and wetlands.

ARABLE LAND – Farmland that includes all areas growing cereals or other crops, ploughed and planted annually.

ASIs - Areas of Scientific Interest. Areas that were identified in the 1970s as being of conservation interest. The NHA designation developed from ASIs.

BIODIVERSITY – A general term used to describe all aspects of biological diversity, including: the number of species present in a given environment; the genetic diversity present within a species; the number of different ecosystems present within a given environment.

BIRDS DIRECTIVE (Council Directive 79/ 409/ 2nd April 1979) - Under this Directive Ireland is required to conserve the habitats of two categories of wild birds: 1) Listed rare and vulnerable species and 2) Regularly occurring migratory species. The Directive also obliges Ireland to conserve wetlands, especially those of international importance and regulates the hunting and trading of wildbirds. It was transposed into Irish legislation by the EU (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997.

CALCAREOUS - Made of or containing calcium carbonate (CaCO₃) and therefore alkaline, limestone for example

CATCHMENT - An area of land draining to a defined point. The term river catchment refers to the area of land that drains into a particular river system.

CONSERVATION STATUS - The sum of the influences acting on a habitat and its typical species that may affect its long term distribution, structure and functions. Also refers to the long-term survival of its typical species within the European territory of the Member States.

DEHLG - Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government

DEVELOPMENT PLANS - Local Authorities (Co. Councils & Corporations) are obliged under statute to produce a document which sets out the planned development of their areas for a given number of years. In the future Local Authorities will be asked to incorporate designated NHAs, SACs and SPAs classifications into their development plans.

DIVERSITY - see biodiversity.

DCMNR – Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources

DRIFT NET - A large fishing net that is allowed to drift with the tide or current.

ECOLOGY - The study of the interactions between organisms, and their physical, chemical and biological environment.

ENCROACHMENT - The invasion of a species (usually plants) into areas previously uncolonised. This term is often used when an undesirable species advances at the expense of a desirable species or habitat.

ENVIRONMENT – The biological and physical conditions in which an organism lives.

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

EROSION - The processes whereby the materials of the Earth's crust are dissolved, or worn away and simultaneously moved from one place to another by natural agencies which include weathering, solution, corrosion and transportation.

EUROPEAN BIRDS DIRECTIVE (79/ 409/ 2nd April 1979) - See Birds Directive.

FAUNA - Animal life.

FAVOURABLE CONSERVATION STATUS - The conservation status of a natural habitat will be taken as “favourable” when: its natural range and areas it covers within that range are stable or increasing, and the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

FLORA - plant life.

FORESHORE – That part of the shore below the high water. The foreshore is in most cases owned by the State.

FORMATION – A geological term for a body of rocks having easily recognised boundaries that can be traced in the field, and large enough to be represented on a geological map as a practical and convenient unit for mapping and description.

GEOMORPHOLOGY – The study of the form and structure of the landscape, which is shaped by the underlying geology.

HABITAT - Refers to the environment defined by specific abiotic and biotic factors, in which a species lives at any stage of its biological cycle. In general terms it is a species home. In the Habitats Directive this term is used more loosely to mean plant communities and areas to be given protection.

HABITATS DIRECTIVE - (Council Directive 92/43/EEC). The Directive on the conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna. This Directive seeks to legally protect wildlife and its habitats. It was transposed into Irish legislation by the EU (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997.

HERBACEOUS - Seed plants with non-woody green stems.

LATITUDE – The angular distance measured in degrees north or south of the equator.

LEPIDOPTERA - Moths and butterflies.

LIAISON COMMITTEE - This is a special group set up to discuss the contents of a conservation management plan and the implementation of the plan. The committee will include representation of landowners, right-holders and other interest groups. It shall be the function of the committee to advise NPWS managers on the interaction between site conservation management and local interests. The Liaison Committee will nominate a member to the official Appeals Board which will consider appeals against site designation and other issues. The Liaison Committee will be independent from the NPWS.

LIMESTONE - Sedimentary rock composed predominantly of calcium carbonate, often containing fossils.

MANAGEMENT - a) Controlling processes within a site (this can be actively carrying out work or can be doing nothing), preferably in accordance with a conservation plan. - b) The practical implementation of the management plan. - c) Undertaking any task or project identified in the management plan, including the identification of new opportunities.

MARINE - Found in, or relating to the sea.

MARITIME - Relating to, or near the sea.

MONITORING – A repeat or repeats of a survey using the same methodology. Designed to look for or measure specific changes and the rate or extent of change. Used to check the “health” quantity or quality of a habitat or species.

MOSAIC - Used to describe habitats that occur together and cannot easily be mapped separately.

MULTIPLE PRIVATE OWNERSHIP- Lands that are divided into areas which are privately owned. There must be more than one private landowner under this heading. (lands in commonage are not described under this heading).

NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (NPWS) – the section of the Environment Infrastructure and Services division of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government with responsibility for nature conservation and implementation of Government conservation policy as enunciated by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

NATURA 2000 - A network of sites across the European Community, selected for the purpose of conserving natural habitats and species of plants and animals which are rare, endangered or vulnerable in the European Community. SACs and SPAs form the Natura 2000 network.

NATURAL HABITAT - Can be aquatic or terrestrial areas distinguished by geographic, abiotic and biotic features, whether entirely natural or semi-natural.

NHAs - Proposed Natural Heritage Areas. These are areas that are important for wildlife conservation. Some of these sites are small, such as roosting areas for rare bats; others can be large such as a blanket bog or a sand dune system.

NOTABLE SPECIES - Plants or animals which are worthy of mentioning either because they are particularly typical of a habitat, or because they are rare/ scarce/ atypical.

NOTIFIABLE ACTIONS - Actions specified under the cSAC regulations and are listed in the appendices of a conservation plan. These are actions which could cause damage to the site, and for which prior approval is required before they can be carried out.

NPWS - National Parks and Wildlife Service

PATROL MONITORING - Regular monitoring of a site usually carried out by the Conservation Ranger to check for damaging activities and to carry out other activities such as to assess the vegetation, to assess the effectiveness of the management regime on the condition of the site, etc.

PERENNIAL - Referring to plants that live for two years at least.

PRIORITY HABITAT - A subset of the habitats listed in Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive. These are habitats which are in danger of disappearance and whose natural range mainly falls

within the territory of the European Union. These habitats are of the highest conservation status and require measures to ensure that their favourable conservation status is maintained.

PROGRAMME - When several closely related tasks are grouped together to achieve an objective.

RARE - An ecological term applied to distribution of species when assessed on a national grid reference system. The assessment is made on the basis of the number of occupied 10 km National Grid squares. A species is described as rare if has been recorded in to 3-10, 10 km squares.

RED DATA BOOK – A register of threatened species that includes definitions of degrees of threat.

RED DATA BOOK 2 (mammals, birds, amphibians and fish) - identifies those species threatened in Ireland or those species whose populations are considered to be of international importance, though not necessarily threatened in Ireland. It details the current state of Irish vertebrates and provides a concise summary of the various legislation for each species.

REPS - Rural Environmental Protection Scheme. This is an Agri-Environmental programme which seeks to draw up agreements with farmers, according to the type of farming, landscape and features on the land. The overall objectives of REPS are to achieve: the use of farming practices which reduce the polluting effects of agriculture by minimising nutrient loss- an environmentally favourable extensification of crop farming, and sheep farming and cattle farming; - ways of using agricultural land which are compatible with protection and improvement of the environment, the countryside, the landscape, natural resources the soil and genetic diversity; - long-term set-aside of agricultural land for reasons connected with the environment; - land management for public access;- education and training for farmers in types of farming compatible with the requirements of environmental protection and upkeep of the countryside.

REPTILES - Cold-blooded vertebrates, most of which are terrestrial, having dry horny skin with scales or plates. Most reptiles lay eggs that have a leathery skin, although some are ovoviviparous.

SACs - Special Areas of Conservation have been selected from the prime examples of wildlife conservation areas in Ireland. Their legal basis from which selection is derived is The Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC of the 21st May 1992). SAC's have also been known as cSAC's which stands for "candidate Special Areas of Conservation", and pcSAC's which stands for "proposed candidate Special Areas of Conservation."

SCARCE - This is an ecological term, which is applied to distribution of species when assessed on a national grid reference system. The assessment is made on the basis of the number of occupied 10 km National Grid squares. Scarce applies to 11-25, 10 km squares in this context.

SCIENTIFIC MONITORING - this is carried out by the monitoring section of the NPWS, whose function here is to ensure that the favourable conservation status of the site is maintained and where possible improved.

SEDIMENT - Solid particles that can originate by the weathering and erosion of pre-existing rock, by chemical precipitation from water, or by the breakdown of organisms.

SPAs - Special Protection Areas for Birds are areas which have been designated to ensure the conservation of certain categories of birds. Ireland is required to conserve the habitats of two categories of wild birds under the European Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/ 409/ 2nd April 1979). The NPWS is responsible for ensuring that such areas are protected from significant damage.

SPECIES - the lowest unit of classification normally used for plants and animals.

STRATEGY - A course of action or a broad approach towards achieving an objective . It is the general thrust of management towards achieving an objective. It is a description of how the objective is to be achieved.

SURVEY - a) Study/visit to produce an inventory of what is present / record a situation.- b) Establishing a baseline (study).

SWARD - Refers to the vegetation cover of low growing plants communities, such as grasslands.

SYNCLINE – Geological term to describe structural folds in rock formations that creates a basin from layers of rock.

TERRESTRIAL - A term used to refer to living on land. The opposite of aquatic.

TILL - Unconsolidated, unsorted glacial deposits.

UNDERSTOREY - The plant layer below the tree canopy in a woodland.

ZONING - The division of a nature conservation site (& neighbouring lands) into a number of sub-units. Within each zone the management prescriptions will be reasonably uniform and will differ in type or intensity from the other zones in the plan.

APPENDIX II: REFERENCE MATERIAL

Map References:

O.S. 1/2 inch (1:126,720) map:	22
O.S. Discovery (1:50,000) map:	82
O.S. 6 inch (1: 10,560) map:	WA 040

Databases :

NHA database, NPWS, The Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 7 Ely Place, Dublin 2.

Natura 2000 database, NPWS, The Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 7 Ely Place, Dublin 2.

I-WeBS Database, BirdWatch Ireland, Rockingham House, Newcastle, Co Wicklow

Photographic Coverage:

Aerial photo No. 488. Date: 2000. NPWS, The Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 7 Ely Place, Dublin 2.

Relevant Legislation:

S.I. No. 39 of 1976: Wildlife Act 1976

S.I. No. 38 of 2000: Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000

S.I. No. 94/1997: European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997.

Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts 1963-2002.

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APPENDIX III: CLIMATE

ROSSLARE													
monthly and annual mean and extreme values													
1961-1990													
TEMPERATURE (<i>degrees Celsius</i>)	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	year
<i>mean daily max.</i>	8.2	7.9	9.3	10.9	13.2	15.9	17.9	17.9	16.3	13.8	10.6	9.1	12.6
<i>mean daily min.</i>	3.9	3.8	4.3	5.6	7.9	10.4	12.1	12.2	10.8	9	5.9	4.8	7.6
<i>mean</i>	6.1	5.9	6.8	8.3	10.5	13.2	15	15	13.6	11.4	8.2	7	10.1
<i>absolute max.</i>	12.7	13	14.2	20.1	20.3	25.4	26.2	25.9	21.5	19.2	15.7	14	26.2
<i>absolute min.</i>	-4.4	-4.1	-2.5	-1	-0.3	4.7	5.2	6.2	2.6	0.7	-2.5	-3.1	-4.4
<i>mean no. of days with air frost</i>	2.4	2	1.1	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	1.6	8
<i>mean no. of days with ground frost</i>	11	8.6	7.2	4.4	1.3	0	0	0	0.1	0.8	5.6	8.5	47.4
RELATIVE HUMIDITY (%)													
<i>mean at 0900UTC</i>	86	85	84	82	81	82	82	84	84	86	85	86	84
<i>mean at 1500UTC</i>	81	79	76	76	77	78	77	78	77	80	79	82	78
SUNSHINE (hours)													
<i>mean daily duration</i>	1.94	2.47	3.87	5.74	6.88	6.59	6.29	5.86	4.79	3.27	2.5	1.75	4.33
<i>greatest daily duration</i>	8.2	9.8	11.8	13.4	15.4	15.8	15.9	14	12.8	10.2	8.6	7.3	15.9
<i>mean no. of days with no sun</i>	11	8	5	3	1	2	1	2	3	6	9	11	61
RAINFALL (mm)													
<i>mean monthly total</i>	94.8	69.9	67.8	55.7	55.8	50.6	50.7	68.7	73.3	94.9	97.1	97.8	877.1
<i>greatest daily total</i>	44.9	33.4	48.9	27.9	31	32.6	79.1	61	63.6	54.8	56.7	44.8	79.1
<i>mean no. of days with $\geq 0.2\text{mm}$</i>	18	15	16	14	14	13	11	13	14	16	16	17	176
<i>mean no. of days with $\geq 1.0\text{mm}$</i>	14	11	12	10	10	8	8	9	10	12	13	13	129
<i>mean no. of days with $\geq 5.0\text{mm}$</i>	7	5	5	4	4	3	3	4	5	6	6	7	59
WIND (knots)													
<i>mean monthly speed</i>	12.9	12.8	12.4	11.8	11.4	10.1	9.5	10	10.7	11.6	12.1	12.8	11.5
<i>max. gust</i>	76	76	66	75	57	51	50	56	72	87	71	80	87
<i>max. mean 10-minute speed</i>	46	44	42	52	35	38	35	37	47	50	45	50	52
<i>mean no. of days with gales</i>	2.5	1.5	1.1	1.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.9	11.7
WEATHER (mean no. of days with...)													
<i>snow or sleet</i>	2.7	3.7	1.9	0.8	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	1.3	10.7
<i>snow lying at 0900UTC</i>	0.8	0.7	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1	1.8
<i>hail</i>	1.8	1.1	2.5	2.1	1	0.3	0	0	0.1	0.4	1.2	1.2	11.8
<i>thunder</i>	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.8	1	1	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.3	6.7
<i>fog</i>	2	2.2	3.2	4.2	3.2	4.4	5	4.6	3.9	2.5	1.7	1.6	38.5

Source: Met Eireann, Rosslare Meteorological Station, Grid Reference: T137122 @ 2m

APPENDIX IV: ADDITIONAL BIRD SPECIES INFORMATION

Annex I Species

Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*) - 1-2 pairs nest on the southern cliffs (west of Ram Head) of this site. The cliffs and ledges within them (and also further west) provide good nesting sites for Choughs.

The coastal habitats and surrounding agricultural lands around Ardmore Head appear to offer ample areas of short sward grassland and heath that Chough and other birds, such as Finches, use as foraging areas. Chough are generally associated with low intensity, pastoral agriculture systems which contain a variety of semi-natural habitats, such as small patches of cultivation, arable stubble, fallow land, etc. (Pienkowski, 1999). The presence of several pairs in this general area indicates that the ecological requirements of the species are being met in the area and within the site. In addition to breeding birds, flock birds are regular along this stretch of coast. Chough in south-eastern Ireland are not isolated from the main range, and the prospects are good for this species, as long as current low intensity management of the site continues.

According to the most recent Chough Survey (2002-03, Birdwatch Ireland), the total number of pairs in Ireland was estimated at 828 pairs and 770 individual birds, with a total of 2,426 birds, so this site supports less than 0.1% of the national population.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) - There is usually one occupied eyrie. In the 2002 survey a pair bred successfully and a single adult bird was seen at another cliff on one occasion only. (P. Smiddy, pers. comm., 2003).

Red-throated Diver (*Gavia stellata*) - Noted in offshore waters (NHA survey notes, 1995). No other data available.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) - Noted within coastal area (John King, 2003). No other data available.

Seabirds

Ardmore/Ram Head has important colonies of breeding seabirds. Data from the *Seabird 2000: Census*, carried out June 1999 by Pat Smiddy and Paul Walsh (Birdwatch, Ireland, 2004) is as follows:

Breeding Seabird Numbers at Ardmore Head (Smiddy and Walsh, 2004)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Comment
Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	99 Apparently Occupied Sites (AOS)
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	45 Apparently Occupied Nests (AON)
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	- 2 (AON)
Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	522 AON

The area was checked for Black Guillemots in spring 1998, although none were found. Thus the Kittiwake colonies are the greatest seabird interest, although the Herring Gull population is worthy of note given the massive declines elsewhere on the east coast.

Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) - McGrath & Walsh (1999) and Walsh (*pers. comm.* 2003) have provided recent information regarding the Kittiwake population and other seabirds. The sea cliffs host a large breeding colony for Kittiwake. The low cliffs with many ledges are very suitable for nesting Kittiwakes.

Kittiwake - Apparently Occupied Nests (AONs)

Year	AONs
1985	1084
1987	1123
1989	805
1991	770
1993	797
1999	522

The decline in AONs since 1987 is generally considered to be due to changes in food supply (Thompson *et al.*, 1999). The Kittiwake population from 1989 to 1993 was close to 800 AONs, which comprised 1.59% of an estimated national total of 50,200, as given by Lloyd *et al.* (1991). In 1999, the colony dropped to c. 522 (Mitchell *et al.*, 2004).

Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*) - 130 occupied sites in the late 1980. 38 pairs AON (1985-87) rising to 99 AON (2000). The site is of lesser importance for Fulmar than Kittiwake and probably holds only a limited amount of suitable habitat. 38 pairs of Fulmar comprises 0.12% of estimated national total of 31,300, as given by Lloyd *et al.* (1991).

Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*) - About 20 pairs since the 1980s, fairly stable numbers. There were six pairs in 1985-87.

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) - About 170 pairs breeding up to the 1980s, big decline (in common with many sites) in the 1990s, with only about 20 pairs in 2002. 78 AON (1985-87); 45 AON (2000).

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*): Only 2 to 4 breeding pairs since the 1980s. 2 AON (1985-87, 1999, 2000).

Guillemot (*Uria aalge*) - Very small colony, probably only about 20 occupied sites.

Razorbill (*Alca torda*) - Very small colony, probably only about 10 occupied sites. 7 individuals (1985-87).

Black Guillemot (*Cepphus grylle*) - No evidence of breeding.

The numbers of Razorbill and Guillemots are considered insignificant in a national context.

APPENDIX V: NOTIFIABLE ACTIONS

The notifiable actions relating to the habitats that occur within the site are listed below:

- Notifiable Action 1.1 - Open marine waters, inlets and bays, tidal rivers and estuarine channels, marine caves, reefs, submerged sand bank
- Notifiable Action 1.2 - Mudflats and sandflats, sandy coastal beaches, shingle beaches, boulder beaches, bedrock shores, marine caves
- Notifiable Action 1.6 - Rocky sea cliffs, clay sea cliffs, sea stacks and islets (Stacks, holms and skerries)
- Notifiable Action 2.2 - Dry lowland grasslands
- Notifiable Action 3.2 - Heath (including Juniper scrub)
- Notifiable Action 5.2 – Scrub
- Notifiable Action 6.1 – Rivers or streams
- Notifiable Action 7.1 - Ditches, hedges, cereals and intensive grasslands, walls, buildings, waste ground, bare soil, parkland grassland, bracken

HABITAT TYPE 1.1

OPEN MARINE WATERS, INLETS AND BAYS, TIDAL RIVERS AND ESTUARINE CHANNELS, MARINE CAVES, REEFS, SUBMERGED SAND BANKS

Under STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 94 of 1997, made under the EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ACT 1972 and in accordance with the obligations inherent in the COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 (the Habitats Directive) on the conservation of the natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora, all persons must obtain the written consent, (in circumstances prescribed at section A and B below) of the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government before performing any of the operations on, or affecting, the following habitats where they occur on lands / waters within the candidate Special Area of Conservation.

Please note that where a landowner has a current approved plan under the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme or any scheme which the Minister considers to be equivalent s/he need only notify the Minister of activities not covered in the plan.

<u>SECTION A</u>	<u>SECTION B</u>
<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section A overleaf</i> are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government and should not be undertaken before consent.</p>	<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section B overleaf</i> may, and in most cases do, require a license or consent from another statutory authority (e.g. the local planning authority, the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, or the Minister for Agriculture and Food).</p> <p>If so, these notifiable actions do not apply.</p> <p>However, if such activities are not regulated by another statutory authority, the said activities are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government.</p>

HABITAT TYPE 1.1

OPEN MARINE WATERS, INLETS AND BAYS, TIDAL RIVERS AND ESTUARINE CHANNELS, MARINE CAVES, REEFS, SUBMERGED SAND BANKS

<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
<p>THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE NOTIFIED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES AND SUCH ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT</p> <p>operation of commercial recreation activities (e.g. sailing schools, diving tours, jet ski hire, dolphin watching tours)</p> <p>introduction (or re-introduction) into the wild of plants or animals of species not currently found in the area</p> <p>collection of species for aquaria</p> <p>any other activity of which notice may be given by the Minister from time to time</p>	<p>(NO REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY IF ALREADY LICENSED BY ANOTHER MINISTER/BODY)</p> <p>use of anti-fouling paints containing organic tin</p> <p>commercial harvesting of sea urchins, winkles, or other marine invertebrates.</p> <p>removal of soil, mud, gravel, sand or minerals</p> <p>use of pesticides or antibiotics</p> <p>operation or extension of aquaculture facilities</p> <p>dumping or disposal of wastes</p> <p>fishing by any type of nets</p> <p>fishing by pots for lobster, crab, whelk, shrimp and other species</p> <p>dredging whether for fishing or for other purposes</p> <p>use of hydraulic or suction systems for removing any species or sediments</p> <p>placement of any structures or devices on the soil or bed of the sea seaward of high water mark</p> <p>use of the soil or bed of the sea for any activity</p> <p>cutting or harvesting growing algae (seaweeds)</p>

In a very limited number of cases it may be necessary for the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government to restrict existing activities. In these cases compensation will be payable for actual losses arising out of any such restriction. In the event of restrictions being imposed by the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government, an appropriate appeals procedure will be put in place.

HABITAT TYPE 1.2

MUDFLATS AND SANDFLOTS, SANDY COASTAL BEACHES, SHINGLE BEACHES, BOULDER BEACHES, BEDROCK SHORES, MARINE CAVES

Under STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 94 of 1997, made under the EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ACT 1972 and in accordance with the obligations inherent in the COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 (the Habitats Directive) on the conservation of the natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora, all persons must obtain the written consent, (in circumstances prescribed at section A and B below) of the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government before performing any of the operations on, or affecting, the following habitats where they occur on lands / waters within the candidate Special Area of Conservation.

Please note that where a landowner has a current approved plan under the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme or any scheme which the Minister considers to be equivalent s/he need only notify the Minister of activities not covered in the plan.

<u>SECTION A</u>	<u>SECTION B</u>
<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section A overleaf</i> are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government and should not be undertaken before consent.</p>	<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section B overleaf</i> may, and in most cases do, require a license or consent from another statutory authority (e.g. the local planning authority, the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, or the Minister for Agriculture and Food).</p> <p>If so, these notifiable actions do not apply.</p> <p>However, if such activities are not regulated by another statutory authority, the said activities are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government.</p>

HABITAT TYPE 1.2

MUDFLATS AND SANDFLATS, SANDY COASTAL BEACHES, SHINGLE BEACHES, BOULDER BEACHES, BEDROCK SHORES, MARINE CAVES

<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
<p>THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE NOTIFIED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES AND SUCH ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT</p> <p>operation of commercial recreation activities (e.g. sailing schools, diving tours, jet ski hire, dolphin watching tours)</p> <p>introduction (or re-introduction) into the wild of plants or animals of species not currently found in the area</p> <p>collection of species for aquaria</p> <p>collection of biological samples or organised educational activities where they occur on bedrock shores or boulder beaches</p> <p>driving vehicles over the area, except over rights of way or over access to licensed aquaculture facilities</p> <p>digging, ploughing or otherwise disturbing the substrate</p> <p>alteration of the banks, bed or flow of watercourses</p> <p>any other activity of which notice may be given by the Minister from time to time</p>	<p>(NO REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY IF ALREADY LICENSED BY ANOTHER MINISTER/BODY)</p> <p>use of anti-fouling paints containing organic tin</p> <p>commercial harvesting of sea urchins, winkles, or other marine invertebrates.</p> <p>removal of soil, mud, gravel, sand or minerals</p> <p>use of pesticides or antibiotics</p> <p>operation or extension of aquaculture facilities</p> <p>dumping or disposal of wastes</p> <p>fishing by any type of nets</p> <p>fishing by pots for lobster, crab, whelk, shrimp and other species</p> <p>dredging whether for fishing or for other purposes</p> <p>use of hydraulic or suction systems for removing any species or sediments</p> <p>placement of any structures or devices on the soil or bed of the sea seaward of high water mark</p> <p>use of the soil or bed of the sea for any activity</p> <p>cutting or harvesting growing algae (seaweeds)</p>

In a very limited number of cases it may be necessary for the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government to restrict existing activities. In these cases compensation will be payable for actual losses arising out of any such restriction. In the event of restrictions being imposed by the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government, an appropriate appeals procedure will be put in place.

HABITAT TYPE 1.6

ROCKY SEA CLIFFS, CLAY SEA CLIFFS, SEA STACKS AND ISLETS (STACKS, HOLMS AND SKERRIES)

Under STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 94 of 1997, made under the EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ACT 1972 and in accordance with the obligations inherent in the COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 (the Habitats Directive) on the conservation of the natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora, all persons must obtain the written consent, (in circumstances prescribed at section A and B below) of the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government before performing any of the operations on, or affecting, the following habitats where they occur on lands / waters within the candidate Special Area of Conservation.

Please note that where a landowner has a current approved plan under the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme or any scheme which the Minister considers to be equivalent s/he need only notify the Minister of activities not covered in the plan.

<u>SECTION A</u>	<u>SECTION B</u>
<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section A overleaf</i> are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government and should not be undertaken before consent.</p>	<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section B overleaf</i> may, and in most cases do, require a license or consent from another statutory authority (e.g. the local planning authority, the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, or the Minister for Agriculture and Food).</p> <p>If so, these notifiable actions do not apply.</p> <p>However, if such activities are not regulated by another statutory authority, the said activities are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government.</p>

HABITAT TYPE 1.6

ROCKY SEA CLIFFS, CLAY SEA CLIFFS, SEA STACKS AND ISLETS (STACKS, HOLMS AND SKERRIES)

<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
<p>THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE NOTIFIED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES AND SUCH ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT</p> <p>grazing of livestock above a sustainable density (as defined in approved farm plans)</p> <p>grazing by livestock treated within the previous week with a pesticide which leaves persistent residues in the dung</p> <p>supplementary feeding of stock (e.g. with hay, silage, concentrates, roots etc.)</p> <p>reclamation, infilling, rock removal, ploughing or land drainage.</p> <p>reseeding, planting of trees or any other species.</p> <p>use of any pesticide or herbicide</p> <p>burning of vegetation.</p> <p>application of fertiliser, lime or organic materials.</p> <p>dumping, burning or storing any materials.</p> <p>cropping or removal of plants.</p> <p>removing ruined buildings alteration of the banks, bed or flow of watercourses</p> <p>operation of commercial recreation facilities (e.g. pony trekking)</p> <p>introduction (or re-introduction) into the wild of plants or animals of species not currently found in the area</p> <p>any other activity of which notice may be given by the Minister from time to time</p>	<p>(NO REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY IF ALREADY LICENSED BY ANOTHER MINISTER/BODY)</p> <p>developing leisure facilities including golf courses, sports pitches, caravan or camping facilities.</p> <p>construction of fences or embankments</p> <p>removal of soil, mud, gravel, sand or minerals</p> <p>construction of buildings or sewerage facilities</p> <p>construction of roads or car parks or access routes</p>

In a very limited number of cases it may be necessary for the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government to restrict existing activities. In these cases compensation will be payable for actual losses arising out of any such restriction. In the event of restrictions being imposed by the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government, an appropriate appeals procedure will be put in place.

HABITAT TYPE 2.2

DRY LOWLAND GRASSLANDS

Under STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 94 of 1997, made under the EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ACT 1972 and in accordance with the obligations inherent in the COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 (the Habitats Directive) on the conservation of the natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora, all persons must obtain the written consent, (in circumstances prescribed at section A and B below) of the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government before performing any of the operations on, or affecting, the following habitats where they occur on lands / waters within the candidate Special Area of Conservation.

Please note that where a landowner has a current approved plan under the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme or any scheme which the Minister considers to be equivalent s/he need only notify the Minister of activities not covered in the plan.

<u>SECTION A</u>	<u>SECTION B</u>
<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section A overleaf</i> are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government and should not be undertaken before consent.</p>	<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section B overleaf</i> may, and in most cases do, require a Minister for the Marine and Natural license or consent from another statutory authority (e.g. the local planning authority, the Resources, or the Minister for Agriculture and Food).</p> <p>If so, these notifiable actions do not apply.</p> <p>However, if such activities are not regulated by another statutory authority, the said activities are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government.</p>

HABITAT TYPE 2.2

DRY LOWLAND GRASSLANDS

<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
<p>THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE NOTIFIED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES AND SUCH ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT</p> <p>grazing of livestock above a sustainable density (as defined in approved farm plans)/grazing by livestock treated within the previous week with a pesticide which leaves persistent residues in the dung</p> <p>changing of traditional use from hay meadow (to either grazing or silage making), or from grazing to silage cutting</p> <p>adding lime/adding fertiliser of any sort to areas not previously fertilised/ applying fertiliser which would increase the level of nitrogen in the soil/applying fertiliser which would increase the level of phosphorous in the soil/ applying phosphorous to soils which already have in excess of the REPS index 2 levels mowing grass before the 30th June (<i>Note; if you have been notified that your lands hold breeding corncrakes, or certain rare meadows, special provisions will apply</i>)</p> <p>burning of vegetation /ploughing or cultivation of lands which have not been so managed for the last 20 years</p> <p>reclamation, infilling, or land drainage/ reseeding, planting of trees or any other species use of any pesticide or herbicide</p> <p>dumping, burning or storing any materials</p> <p>alteration of the banks, bed or low of watercourses</p> <p>operation of commercial recreation facilities (e.g. pony trekking)/introduction (or re-introduction) into the wild of plants or animals of species not currently found in the area</p> <p>any other activity of which notice may be given by the Minister from time to time</p>	<p>(NO REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY IF ALREADY LICENSED BY ANOTHER MINISTER/BODY)</p> <p>developing leisure facilities including golf courses, sports pitches, caravan or camping facilities.</p> <p>removal of soil, mud, gravel, sand or minerals</p> <p>developing roads or car parks</p> <p>construction of fences, buildings or embankments</p> <p>afforestation</p>

In a very limited number of cases it may be necessary for the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government to restrict existing activities. In these cases compensation will be payable for actual losses arising out of any such restriction. In the event of restrictions being imposed by the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government, an appropriate appeals procedure will be put in place.

HABITAT TYPE 3.2

HEATH (INCLUDING JUNIPER SCRUB)

Under STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 94 of 1997, made under the EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ACT 1972 and in accordance with the obligations inherent in the COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 (the Habitats Directive) on the conservation of the natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora, all persons must obtain the written consent, (in circumstances prescribed at section A and B below) of the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government before performing any of the operations on, or affecting, the following habitats where they occur on lands / waters within the candidate Special Area of Conservation.

Please note that where a landowner has a current approved plan under the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme or any scheme which the Minister considers to be equivalent s/he need only notify the Minister of activities not covered in the plan.

<u>SECTION A</u>	<u>SECTION B</u>
<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section A overleaf</i> are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government and should not be undertaken before consent.</p>	<p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section B overleaf</i> may, and in most cases do, require a license or consent from another statutory authority (e.g. the local planning authority, the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, or the Minister for Agriculture and Food).</p> <p>If so, these notifiable actions do not apply.</p> <p>However, if such activities are not regulated by another statutory authority, the said activities are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government.</p>

HABITAT TYPE 3.2

HEATH (INCLUDING JUNIPER SCRUB)

<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
<p>THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE NOTIFIED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES AND SUCH ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT</p> <p>grazing of livestock above a sustainable density or type of stock (as defined in approved farm plans)/grazing by livestock treated within the previous week with a pesticide which leaves persistent residues in the dung</p> <p>supplementary feeding of stock, except as defined in REPS guidelines</p> <p>introduction of stock to formerly ungrazed areas</p> <p>adding lime/ adding fertiliser of any sort</p> <p>Creation of new tracks or paths</p> <p>burning areas of vegetation over 5 ha, or burning any area more often than once every 15 years</p> <p>reclamation, infilling, ploughing or land drainage</p> <p>reseeding, planting of trees or any other species</p> <p>rock removal/cutting turf except from existing banks; no cutting from intact (uncut) areas</p> <p>commercial peat moss or turf extraction</p> <p>use of any pesticide or herbicide, including sheep dip</p> <p>dumping, burning or storing any materials</p> <p>alteration of the banks, bed or flow of watercourses</p> <p>operation of commercial recreation facilities (e.g. pony trekking)</p> <p>introduction (or re-introduction) into the wild of plants or animals of species not currently found in the area/any other activity of which notice may be given by the Minister from time to time</p>	<p>(NO REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY IF ALREADY LICENSED BY ANOTHER MINISTER/BODY)</p> <p>developing leisure facilities including golf courses, sports pitches, caravan or camping facilities.</p> <p>removal of soil, mud, gravel, sand or minerals</p> <p>developing roads or car parks</p> <p>construction of fences, buildings or embankments</p> <p>afforestation</p> <p>erecting or operating a windfarm</p>

In a very limited number of cases it may be necessary for the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government to restrict existing activities. In these cases compensation will be payable for actual losses arising out of any such restriction. In the event of restrictions being imposed by the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government, an appropriate appeals procedure will be put in place.

HABITAT TYPE 5.2

SCRUB

Under STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 94 of 1997, made under the EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ACT 1972 and in accordance with the obligations inherent in the COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 (the Habitats Directive) on the conservation of the natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora, all persons must obtain the written consent, (in circumstances prescribed at section A and B below) of the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government before performing any of the operations on, or affecting, the following habitats where they occur on lands / waters within the candidate Special Area of Conservation.

Please note that where a landowner has a current approved plan under the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme or any scheme which the Minister considers to be equivalent s/he need only notify the Minister of activities not covered in the plan.

<p><u>SECTION A</u></p> <p>Please note that the activities listed in Section A overleaf are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government and should not be undertaken before consent.</p>	<p><u>SECTION B</u></p> <p>Please note that the activities listed in <i>Section B</i> overleaf may, and in most cases do, require a license or consent from another statutory authority (e.g. the local planning authority, the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, or the Minister for Agriculture and Food).</p> <p>If so, these notifiable actions do not apply.</p> <p>However, if such activities are not regulated by another statutory authority, the said activities are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government.</p>
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HABITAT TYPE 5.2

SCRUB

<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
<p>THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE NOTIFIED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES AND SUCH ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT</p> <p>grazing of livestock above a sustainable density (as defined in approved farm plans)/grazing by livestock treated within the previous week with a pesticide which leaves persistent residues in the dung</p> <p>supplementary feeding of stock (as defined in approved farm plans)</p> <p>adding lime /adding fertiliser of any sort</p> <p>reclaiming land covered by scrub; if scrub is cut it must be allowed to regrow</p> <p>reclamation, infilling, ploughing or land drainage</p> <p>reseeding, planting of trees or any other species</p> <p>felling of trees, removal of timber</p> <p>removal of foliage, moss or other materials</p> <p>killing ivy</p> <p>use of any pesticide or herbicide /dumping, burning or storing any Materials</p> <p>alteration of the banks, bed or flow of watercourses</p> <p>operation of commercial recreation facilities (e.g. walking tours)</p> <p>introduction (or re-introduction) into the wild of plants or animals of species not currently found in the area</p> <p>any other activity of which notice may be given by the Minister from time to time</p>	<p>(NO REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY IF ALREADY LICENSED BY ANOTHER MINISTER/BODY)</p> <p>developing leisure facilities including golf courses, sports pitches, caravan or camping facilities.</p> <p>any activity which may cause pollution of the site</p> <p>removal of soil, mud, gravel, sand or minerals</p> <p>developing roads or car parks</p> <p>construction of fences, buildings or embankments</p> <p>felling trees or reafforestation</p>

In a very limited number of cases it may be necessary for the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government to restrict existing activities. In these cases compensation will be payable for actual losses arising out of any such restriction. In the event of restrictions being imposed by the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government, an appropriate appeals procedure will be put in place.

HABITAT TYPE 6.1

RIVERS OR STREAMS

Under STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 94 of 1997, made under the EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ACT 1972 and in accordance with the obligations inherent in the COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 (the Habitats Directive) on the conservation of the natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora, all persons must obtain the written consent, (in circumstances prescribed at section A and B below) of the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government before performing any of the operations on, or affecting, the following habitats where they occur on lands / waters within the candidate Special Area of Conservation.

Please note that where a landowner has a current approved plan under the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme or any scheme which the Minister considers to be equivalent s/he need only notify the Minister of activities not covered in the plan.

SECTION A

Please note that the activities listed in *Section A overleaf* are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government and should not be undertaken before consent.

SECTION B

Please note that the activities listed in *Section B overleaf* may, and in most cases do, require a license or consent from another statutory authority (e.g. the local planning authority, the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, or the Minister for Agriculture and Food).

If so, these notifiable actions do not apply.

However, if such activities are not regulated by another statutory authority, the said activities are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

HABITAT TYPE 6.1

RIVERS OR STREAMS

<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
<p>THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE NOTIFIED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES AND SUCH ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT</p> <p>grazing of livestock above a sustainable density (as defined in approved farm plans) within 30m of the river or stream/grazing by livestock treated within the previous week with a pesticide which leaves persistent residues in the dung within 30m of the river or stream</p> <p>supplementary feeding of stock within 30m of the river or stream/adding lime within 30m of the river or stream/adding fertiliser of any sort within 30m of the river or stream</p> <p>extracting water for irrigation or other purposes</p> <p>operation of boat angling or shore angling business/restocking with fish</p> <p>reclamation, infilling, ploughing or land drainage within 30m of the river or stream/ reseedling, planting of trees or any other species within 30m of the river or stream/ removal of trees or any aquatic vegetation within 30m of the river/stream/ use of any pesticide or herbicide in the river or stream or within 30m of the river or stream</p> <p>dumping rubbish or other materials or disposing of any chemicals or wastes in streams/ivers or into water-courses running into them</p> <p>dumping, burning or storing any materials within 30m of the river/stream including the land spreading of used pesticides (e.g. sheep dip)/alteration of the banks, channel, bed or flow of the river or stream</p> <p>harvesting or burning of reed or willow.</p> <p>causing siltation/ operation of commercial recreation facilities (e.g. bird watching tours)</p> <p>introduction (or re-introduction) into the wild of plants or animals of species not currently found in the area</p> <p>any other activity of which notice may be given by the Minister from time to time</p>	<p>(NO REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY IF ALREADY LICENSED BY ANOTHER MINISTER/BODY)</p> <p>developing leisure facilities including golf courses, sports pitches, caravan or camping facilities.</p> <p>any activity which might cause pollution of the river or stream</p> <p>removal of soil, mud, gravel, sand or minerals</p> <p>developing roads or car parks</p> <p>construction of fences, buildings or embankments</p> <p>construction or operation of an aquaculture facility.</p> <p>fishing for eels or salmon</p> <p>bank maintenance and grading</p> <p>creation of weirs and dams</p>

In a very limited number of cases it may be necessary for the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government to restrict existing activities. In these cases compensation will be payable for actual losses arising out of any such restriction. In the event of restrictions being imposed by the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government, an appropriate appeals procedure will be put in place.

HABITAT TYPE 7.1

DITCHES, HEDGES, CEREALS AND INTENSIVE GRASSLANDS, WALLS, BUILDINGS, WASTE GROUND, BARE SOIL, PARKLAND GRASSLAND, BRACKEN, CAVES, OR QUARRIES

Under STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 94 of 1997, made under the EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ACT 1972 and in accordance with the obligations inherent in the COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 (the Habitats Directive) on the conservation of the natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora, all persons must obtain the written consent, (in circumstances prescribed at section A and B below) of the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government before performing any of the operations on, or affecting, the following habitats where they occur on lands / waters within the candidate Special Area of Conservation.

Please note that where a landowner has a current approved plan under the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme or any scheme which the Minister considers to be equivalent s/he need only notify the Minister of activities not covered in the plan.

<u>SECTION A</u>	<u>SECTION B</u>
Please note that the activities listed in Section A overleaf are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government and should not be undertaken before consent.	<p>Please note that the activities listed in Section B overleaf may, and in most cases do, require a licence or consent from another statutory authority (e.g. the local planning authority, the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, or the Minister for Agriculture and Food).</p> <p>If so, these notifiable actions do not apply.</p> <p>However, if such activities are not regulated by another statutory authority, the said activities are required to be notified to the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government.</p>

HABITAT TYPE 7.1

DITCHES, HEDGES, CEREALS AND INTENSIVE GRASSLANDS, WALLS, BUILDINGS, WASTE GROUND, BARE SOIL, PARKLAND GRASSLAND, BRACKEN, CAVES, OR QUARRIES

<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
<p>THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE NOTIFIED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES AND SUCH ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT</p> <p>disturbance of bats</p> <p>operation of commercial recreation facilities (e.g. bird watching tours)</p> <p>introduction (or re-introduction) into the wild of plants or animals of species not currently found in the area</p> <p>any other activity of which notice may be given by the Minister from time to time</p>	<p>(NO REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY IF ALREADY LICENSED BY ANOTHER MINISTER/BODY)</p> <p>developing leisure facilities including sports pitches, caravan or camping facilities.</p> <p>developing roads or car parks</p> <p>construction of fences, buildings and embankments</p> <p>afforestation</p>

In a very limited number of cases it may be necessary for the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government to restrict existing activities. In these cases compensation will be payable for actual losses arising out of any such restriction. In the event of restrictions being imposed by the Minister for The Environment, Heritage and Local Government, an appropriate appeals procedure will be put in place.

APPENDIX VI: COMPENSATION AND APPEALS PROCEDURES

Compensation

The Government is committed, as part of the social partnership process, to the payment of a fair and proper level of compensation to landowners who have lands proposed as part of an SAC or SPA and to other users who have a legal entitlement in the site.

A landowner or user with a legal entitlement may seek compensation for actual losses incurred due to restrictions imposed as a result of designation. Eligible persons should submit to NPWS details of the losses incurred as a result of the inclusion of lands in an SAC/SPA and outlining the basis for the calculations. Documentary evidence of past earnings and the activities that produced these should be included with the claim. Should the applicant be dissatisfied with a compensation offer, the case may be referred to an independent arbitrator who will review the matter and make a final decision.

Where a landowner or user with a legal entitlement is restricted in carrying out an activity on their land or licensed area, the compensation due will exclude any payments that have been attracted under grant schemes.

For farmers, there are two options available for receiving compensation for possible restrictions to their farming practices. Farmers may also receive payments for carrying out actions that enhance a nature conservation area.

Rural Environment Protection Scheme (REPS)

Lands within SACs, SPAs, NHAs or commonages are defined as 'Target Areas' under this scheme. A REPS plan usually covers an entire farm, but a farmer with land in a target area receives a higher payment for that area. Farmers with small areas of land in a designated area can get REPS payments for that part of their farm. In either case, the farmer is subject to certain conditions regarding farming and land use practices, set out in the REPS plan for the farm. REPS is administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry.

NPWS Farm Plan Scheme

Where a farmer chooses not to participate in REPS, and NPWS seeks to change the farm operation in some way or to restrict a particular activity, NPWS will pay for preparation of a farm plan. This scheme also applies to land within SACs, SPAs, NHAs and commonages.

An NPWS farm plan will normally be confined just to the designated land and will address the conservation requirements, as well as any costs arising. Payment may also be made for work carried out that enhances the nature conservation value of the designated area. The farmer will have a substantial input into the plan.

A list of trained and approved farm planners is available for farmers to choose from. For further information, contact NPWS.

Appeals Procedure

Objection or appeal can be made against the inclusion of a piece of land in a cSAC or SPA. A person can only make objections if they have a legal interest in the site (i.e. an owner or legal user). They must be made on scientific grounds, e.g. a landowner would show that the relevant habitats/species/geological features were not present in such a condition as to warrant designation. Appeals can also be made for the inclusion of lands. Appeals should be accompanied by a map of the area of concern and be as informative as possible. There are two stages to the appeals process:

Internal Appeals are initially dealt with by regional staff. If necessary, they may refer the case to other NPWS staff. If there is no agreement following the internal appeal, the case becomes an external appeal.

The option of an **External Appeal** is available only where an internal appeal is unsuccessful. If so, the appellant may have the case referred to an Appeals Advisory Board, which is independent of NPWS. A grant to defray the cost of an expert scientific report is available to the appellant. The Board is comprised of equal representation of landowners/users and conservationists, with an independent chairperson. The Board makes a recommendation on each appeal to the Minister who then decides on the outcome of the appeal.

APPENDIX VII: NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE MANAGEMENT STAFF

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National Parks and Wildlife Service

The Department of the Environment, Heritage
and Local Government
7 Ely Place
Dublin 2
Phone Lo Call 1890 202021, (01) 8882000
Fax (01) 8883272
www.npws.ie

ARDMORE BAY

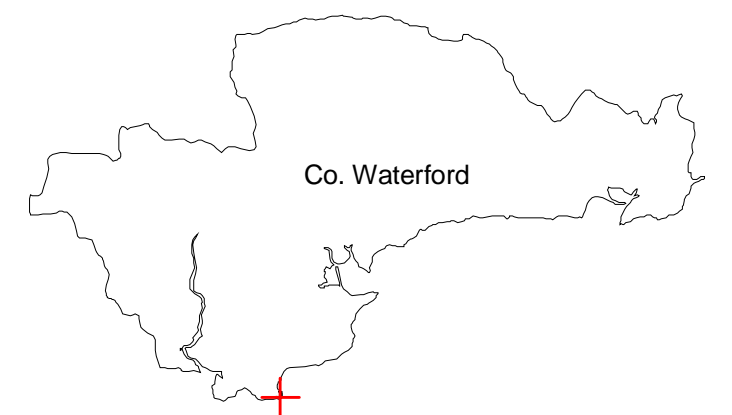
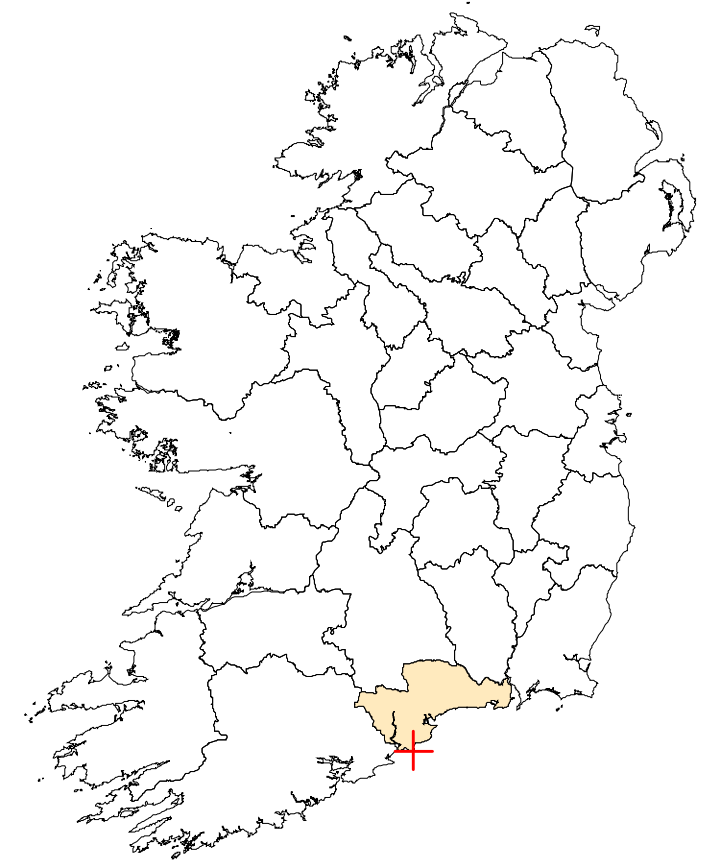


CEANTAR SPEISIALTA CAOMHNAITHE CANDIDATE SPECIAL AREA OF CONSERVATION

ARDMORE HEAD 002123
Version 1.00

The mapped boundaries are of an indicative and general nature only.
Boundaries of designated areas are subject to revision.
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Níl sna teorainneacha ar na léarscáileanna ach nod garshuíomhach ginearálta.
Féadfar athbheithníthe a déanamh ar theorainneacha na gceantar comharthaithe.
Macasamhail d'ábhar na Suirbhéarachta Ordonáis le chead ón Rialtas (Ceadúnas Uimh. 5953)



Map 1
LOCATION MAP: ARDMORE HEAD cSAC 002123



Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government
An Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil

Co-financed through 'Life' EU funding
Chomh-mhaoinithe trí chiste 'LIFE' an AE

