## Designated sites within 15 km of Lough Ree Power ADF

| Designated site | Distance from ADF | Qualifying Interest / Special Conservation Interest<br>Conservation objectives indicated as appropriate [R, M , G, U]<br>R = Restore specific QI/SCI<br>M = Maintain specific QI/SCI<br>G = Generic CO for all QI/SCI in N2000 site, i.e. Maintain or Restore<br>U = Site-specific Conservation Objective Under Review | Site Description |
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| Lough Ree SAC/pNHA | 4 km<br>(6.5 km along hydrological pathway) | – Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150] **[R]**<br>– Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (*important orchid sites) [6210] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Alkaline fens [7230] **[M]**<br>– Limestone pavements [8240] **[M]**<br>– Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] **[U]**<br>– Bog woodland [91D0] **[R]**<br>– *Lutra lutra* (Otter) [1355] **[M]** | A large mesotrophic moderate-eutrophic lake situated in an ice deepened depression in carboniferous limestone on the River Shannon. Greater part is less than 10 m in depth but there are deep troughs from north to south of depths between 17-33 m. Lough Ree has a long and much indented shoreline, mostly stony with some gravel and sand. In parts, reed swamp, alkaline fen, bog, freshwater marshes, wet and dry grassland and wet woodland occurs. Numerous islands, some wooded, occur in the lake. Dry broad-leaved woodland of good quality is included in site. Lough Ree is surrounded by agricultural land of moderate to high intensity and is close to Athlone town. Eutrophication may be a problem but at present Lough Ree is less affected than other midland lakes, notably Lough Derg.<br><br>One of the largest and most important lakes in Ireland, Lough Ree is an excellent example of a natural eutrophic system. The old oak woods at the site are considered the best in the midlands. The site also contains very good examples of degraded raised bog much of which retain a typical raised bog flora and which could be improved by restoration works. Bog woodland is also represented though some of this is planted Pinus species. A further area of wet woodland on cutover peat is notable for the abundance of Frangula alnus. Good to moderate examples of alkaline fens and calcareous dry grasslands also occur. Limestone pavement with species-rich woodland occurs at Rathcline. Several Red Data plant species occur. Lutra lutra is frequent on the site and the fish Coregonus autumnalis pollan has been recorded. It is an important bird site for wintering and breeding waterfowl, and has a colony of Sterna hirundo. It is of particular importance for the breeding population of Melanitta nigra, as it is one of only three sites for the species in Ireland. Water quality of the lake is considered good. |
| Lough Ree SPA | 4 km<br>(6.5 km along hydrological pathway) | – Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) [A004] **[G]**<br>– Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*) [A038] **[G]**<br>– Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) [A050] **[G]**<br>– Teal (*Anas crecca*) [A052] **[G]**<br>– Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053] **[G]**<br>– Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) [A056] **[G]**<br>– Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*) [A061] **[G]**<br>– Common Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*) [A065] **[G]**<br>– Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) [A067] **[G]**<br>– Coot (*Fulica atra*) [A125] **[G]**<br>– Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) [A140] **[G]**<br>– Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) [A142] **[G]**<br>– Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) [A193] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | Situated on the River Shannon between Lanesborough and Athlone, Lough Ree is the third largest lake in the Republic of Ireland. It lies in an ice-deepened depression in Carboniferous Limestone. Some of its features (including the islands) are based on glacial drift. The main inflowing rivers are the Shannon, Inny and Hind, and the main outflowing river is the Shannon. The greater part of Lough Ree is less than 10 m in depth, but there are six deep troughs running from north to south, reaching a maximum depth of about 36 m just west of Inchmore. The lake has a very long, indented shoreline and hence has many sheltered bays. It also has a good scattering of islands, most of which are included in the site. The lake is classified as a mesotrophic system. The water of Lough Ree tends to be strongly peat-stained, restricting macrophytes to depths of less than 2 m. Swamp vegetation, especially of Phragmites australis, occurs in the sheltered areas around the lake. The swamp often grades to species-rich calcareous fen or freshwater marsh. Lowland wet grassland, some of which floods in winter, is found in abundance around the shore. Some of the islands are wooded.<br><br>Lough Ree is one of the most important Midland sites for wintering waterfowl, with nationally important populations of Anas penelope, Anas crecca, Anas acuta, Anas clypeata, Aythya fuligula and Bucephala clangula. Nationally important populations of Pluvialis apricaria and Vanellus vanellus are also associated with the lake. Regionally important numbers of Cygnus cygnus and Anser albifrons flavirostris are also found in the vicinity of the lake. The site supports a nationally important population of Sterna hirundo. Larus ridibundus breeds (nationally important) and Larus fuscus and Larus canus have bred in the past (recent census information is poor). Lough Ree is an important site for breeding duck and grebes, with Aythya fuligula and Podiceps cristatus having populations of national importance. Of particular note is that it is one of the two main sites in the country for breeding Melanitta nigra, a Red Data Book species. The woodland around the lake is a stronghold for Sylvia borin and this scarce species probably occurs on some of the islands within the SPA. Lutra lutra is frequent within the site and the fish Coregonus autumnalis pollan occurs. |
| Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA | 12.5 km | – Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395] **[G]** | Site is situated in the north central midlands overlying Carboniferous limestone. Lough Forbes is a naturally eutrophic lake on the Shannon system and is fed also from the north by the River Rinn. The lake has well developed swamp vegetation and displays natural transition to seasonally flooded grassland, marsh and raised bog. The raised bogs, known as the Ballykenny-Fishertown complex, are separated by the Camlin River, which has further areas of callow grassland. The Castle Forbes estate on the eastern shore of the lake is extensively planted with mature semi-natural woodland, including some stands of old oak.<br><br>This site has important examples of several habitats listed on Annex I of the EU Directive, notably active raised bog, degraded raised bog, naturally eutrophic lakes and old oak woodlands. The lake and callow grasslands provide good habitat for a range of wintering waterfowl species, including regionally important flocks of Cygnus cygnus, Anas crecca and Anas penelope. Species such as Phalacrocorax carbo and Aythya fuligula are also represented but in low numbers. The bogs were formerly used by wintering Anser albifrons flavirostris but these appear to have been now abandoned in favour of grassland sites elsewhere. Falco columbarius has been recorded and may breed in the site. Lagopus lagopus occurs on the bogs. |
| Brown Bog SAC/pNHA | 12.5 km | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]** | Brown Bog is a small midland raised bog situated approximately 7 km west of Longford town. Uncut high bog accounts for a relatively high proportion (c.70%) of the site, though the largest part of this is classified as degraded bog. The high bog is surrounded by a rim of cutover bog, much of which has been invaded by |

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| | | – Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Betula pubescens scrub. Other habitats in the cutover zone are broad-leaved woodland, a small stand of planted conifers, and some wet grassland. A large area of cutover bog to the east of the site has recently been planted with conifers.<br><br>Brown Bog is one of the best examples of a small, relatively intact midland raised bog in Ireland at present. The active bog is characterised by flat, quaking areas with frequent pools and with a wet flush. Sphagnum cover is high and includes the relatively rare S. imbricatum and S. fuscum. Lichen cover, mainly Cladonia spp., is high. The degraded area of high bog is relatively undisturbed and considered a good example of the habitat. It is possible that a significant portion of the degraded bog could be re-wetted in the future. Rhynchosporion vegetation is well-developed and of good quality. Lagopus lagopus, a threatened and Red listed species in Ireland, has been reported from the site. In general, this small bog is of good quality and has been relatively free of damaging activities such as peat-cutting and drainage. |
| Mount Jessop Bog SAC/ NHA | 8.7 km | – [7120] Degraded Raised Bog<br>– [91D0] Bog Woodland* | Mount Jessop Bog SAC occurs within the larger raised bog system that is designated as Mount Jessop Bog NHA (001450). It is situated 5 km south-west of Longford Town in the townland of Mount Jessop, Co. Longford. Conifer plantations at the site were all felled by 2012 and all of the intensive drainage systems associated with the plantations were blocked by 2013 as part of an EU-funded LIFE project so as to raise the water table and restore Active Raised Bog on the site.<br><br>Mount Jessop Bog SAC is a site of considerable conservation significance comprising raised bog, a rare habitat in the E.U. and one that is becoming increasingly scarce and under threat in Ireland. It contains good examples of the Habitats Directive Annex I habitat Degraded Raised Bog (capable of regeneration) which is reverting to the priority Annex 1 habitat Active Raised Bog (7110) and a small area of the Annex 1 priority habitat Bog Woodland which is developing on the cutover. The site already supports a good diversity of raised bog microhabitats, including some hummock/hollow complexes, and rewetted cutover bog. Red Grouse, a bird which is becoming increasingly rare in Ireland, has been recorded at this site, along with the Irish Hare — a Red Data Book species — which increases its overall scientific interest. |
| Corbo Bog SAC/ pNHA | 12.5 km | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Corbo Bog is a medium sized raised bog located 7 km west of Lanesborough village in Co. Roscommon. It is one of a number of raised bogs in the area, though most of these have been cut to supply peat to power stations. The bog overlies Carboniferous limestone bedrock. Almost 60% of the site is uncut high bog though most of this is classified as degraded bog. The area of high bog is L-shaped and rather narrow. Cutover bog, often invaded by Betula pubescens scrub, surrounds much of the high bog. Some small areas of wet grassland are included in the site.<br><br>The uncut surface of Corbo Bog contains a small but substantial area of active raised bog, which includes a few small flushed areas. There is a good Sphagnum cover and species diversity, including the relatively rare Sphagnum imbricatum and S. fuscum. The active area is within a larger area of degraded raised bog. The degraded bog retains a typical raised bog flora, although there is little or no evidence of an active catotelm in the degraded areas. Rhynchosporion vegetation is well-developed in the wetter areas of the high bog and includes Rhynchospora fusca, which is a relatively rare species in Ireland. Overall, this site contains a reasonably large area of uncut high bog. |
| Fortwilliam Turlough SAC/ pNHA | 4.4 km | – Turloughs [3180] **[G]** | The turlough area includes a more or less permanent waterbody with scattered reeds, a woodland which is partly flooded in winter, ungrazed tall herb vegetation and grassland. There is considerable precipitation of marl (CaCO3) associated with ground water input and a lack of surface flow. Rock outcrops occur on the North East side with boulders on the turlough floor.<br><br>Fortwilliam is the most important turlough in Co. Longford and the 004 NUTS region and one of only two good examples east of the Shannon. It has a diverse vegetation with particularly large stands of nutrient-poor marsh containing normally calcifuge plants. The woodland is also unusual and goes with a historic low intensity of grazing. There is no sign of drainage in the basin and little sign of eutrophication. |
| Lough Forbes Complex SAC/ pNHA | 12.5 km | – Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150] **[R]**<br>– Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | A complex of naturally eutrophic lake, fed by the River Shannon and Rinn River, with extensive reed bed development, and natural transitions to flooded grasslands, marsh and two active raised bogs. The Castle Forbes estate on the eastern shore of the lake is extensively planted with mature semi-natural woodland, including some stands of old oak wood. The site is located in the north central midlands, at a low elevation, and overlies Carboniferous Limestone with a variable thickness of glacial tills.<br><br>Lough Forbes Complex is an extensive and important midland site which contains significant examples of the Annex I habitats natural eutrophic lake, active raised bog, alluvial woodlands, degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. Other habitats of note occurring include mixed ash/oak woodland, dry grassland and cutover raised bog. In many areas there are good examples of relatively undisturbed transitions from lake and river to adjoining terrestrial habitats such as wet grassland and raised bog. The lake, callow and raised bog areas provide feeding and roosting sites for a flock of wintering Anser albifrons flavirostris. The site is within a breeding territory of Falco columbarius. |

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| | | – Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] **[R]** | |
| Forthill Bog NHA | 2.5 km | – Peatlands [4] | Forthill Bog NHA is located 2 km from the north-eastern shore of Lough Ree and 2 km south-east of Newtown Cashel. It is mainly situated in the townlands of Forthill, Claras, Ballyrevagh and Newtownflanagin, Co. Longford. It is one of only two raised bogs in this region that have not been developed for commercial peat extraction. This bog is 4 km south-west of the Ballymahon to Lanesbourogh road (R392) and can be accessed from local roads to the south-east and bog tracks to the west and north-west of the site. It is bounded by mineral soil to the east, improved grassland and cutover to the west and Birch scrub on cutover to the north.<br>The site consists of a small raised bog with a single dome of high bog and associated cutover. The main features of interest are the pools, flushes and wetter areas of the high bog. Towards the north-east of the high bog, there is a good though somewhat limited pool system and a small flush is present to the south-east. |
| Lisnarriagh Bog NHA | 11.5 km | – Peatlands [4] | Lisnanarriagh Bog NHA is situated about 6 km west of Lanesborough in the townlands of Cloontimullan, Coolshaghtena, Lisnanarriagh and Derrycarbry , Co. Roscommon. The site comprises a relatively small raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutaway. The site margins are bounded by agricultural land, and the site lies just 1km from the boundary to Lough Ree cSAC (440) at the Clooneigh River.<br>The high bog consists of a small dome divided in two by a track running north-west, south-east. Mature Birch woodland occurs on cutover around much of the southern lobe. Cutover bog surrounds the majority of the northern lobe and some reclaimed grassland also occurs. A small area of commercial forestry is found to the south-west. |
| Derrymore Bog pNHA | 12 km | n/a | This lowland raised bog is situated some 3km southeast of Longford town. The bog was surveyed in 1985 when its condition was described as being about 50% destroyed by turf cutting with the effect of drying out the margins thus making them unsuitable for the growth of bog mosses (Sphagnum spp.). In addition the bog had been subject to burning with only one unburned area on the northwestern lobe. |
| Lough Bannow pNHA | 4.7 km | n/a | Lough Bannow proposed Natural Heritage Area (NHA) is located some 2km east of Lanesborough in Co. Longford, just to the south of the Longford Road (N63). The outline of water of Lough Bannow, as surveyed in 1907, is marked on the 6" Ordnance Survey map. However swamp symbols are drawn across the entire surface, which indicates that the lake was drying out and/or infilling with vegetation at that time.<br>There is indeed very little open water left. The location of the lake is marked by a large reed-bed dominated by Common Reed (Phragmites australis). To the east Downy Birch (Betula pubescens), Alder (Alnus glutinosa) and Gorse (Ulex europaeus) are colonising areas. Outside the site of the old lake, marshes and wet, sometimes inundated grasslands are included in the NHA area. A low hill to the east of the site of the old lough separates the two main wetland areas. |
| Lough Slawn pNHA | 4.6 km | n/a | Lough Slawn is a small lough about 1km from Elfeet Bay, on the shores of Lough Ree, and some 12km south of Lanesborough. The lough, the area around the lough and an extension to the south, have been combined in a rationalisation of two former Areas of Scientific Interest (ASIs) to form a site now designated a Natural Heritage Area (NHA). Much of the western boundary of the NHA is formed by Culnagore Wood, itself a part of the large Lough Ree NHA, and the southern boundary of the site again runs down to the Lough Ree NHA. |
| Derry Lough pNHA | 3.5 km | n/a | Derry Lough is a relatively small area of wet grassland, fen, fen woodland and open water situated about 7km north-west of Ballymahon, Co. Longford and about 3km from the shore of Lough Ree.<br>Although the transition from lake to woodland, which has been occurring for very many years, has been accelerated by a certain amount of drainage, Derry Lough still has many interesting features. Furthermore, the fen woodland resulting from succession in the future will be a relatively large area of wet semi-natural woodland in an area where such woodland is rare. |
| Lough Bawn pNHA | 3 km | n/a | Lough Bawn is a relatively small site composed of raised bog, fen, wet and dry woodland and freshwater marsh habitats situated 2km west of Keenagh in Co. Longford. It is the area of fen however that gives this site its primary scientific interest. |
| Cordara Turlough pNHA | 3.6 km | n/a | This is a fairly large turlough in the carboniferous limestone area on the east shore of Lough Ree, situated about 7km south west of Lanesborough. The vegetation is mainly that of pasture with occasional drainage ditches which are often flooded. The main interest of the site now lies in the large numbers of wildfowl and waters that the area can support when wet. It also is of interest as an example of a rare habitat type, turloughs, outside their main region of distribution of the limestone areas west of the Shannon. This interest has been somewhat diminished by the partial drainage of the site. |

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| Royal Canal pNHA | 3.8 km | n/a | The Royal Canal is a man-made waterway linking the River Liffey at Dublin to the River Shannon near Tarmonbarry. The ecological value of the canal lies more in the diversity of species it supports along its linear habitats than in the presence of rare species. It crosses through agricultural land and therefore provides a refuge for species threatened by modern farming methods. |

## Designated sites within 15 km of bogs supplying Lough Ree Power station

| Designated site<br><br>Distance to closest supply bog | Distance from closest supply bog | Qualifying Interest / Special Conservation Interest<br>Conservation objectives indicated as appropriate [R, M , G, U]<br>R = Restore specific QI/SCI<br>M = Maintain specific QI/SCI<br>G = Generic CO for all QI/SCI in N2000 site, i.e. Maintain or Restore<br>U = Site-specific Conservation Objective Under Review | Description (as presented in Natura 2000 Data Form) |
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| Lough Ree SAC | 0 km (Edera) | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** |
| Lough Ree SPA | 0 km (Edera) | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** |
| Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA | 0.3 km (Begnagh) | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** |
| Brown Bog SAC | 0.8 km (Clooneeny) | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** |
| Mount Jessop Bog SAC/ NHA | 2.1 km (Clooneeny) | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** |
| Corbo Bog SAC | 0.7 km (Moher) | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** |
| Fortwilliam Turlough SAC | 1.8 km (Derryshanoge) | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** |
| Lough Forbes Complex SAC | 0.3 km (Begnagh) | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** | Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** |
| Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon) SAC | 8.9 km (Granaghan) | – Alkaline fens [7230] **[G]**<br>– Vertigo geyeri (Geyer's Whorl Snail) [1013] **[G]** | Annaghmore Lough is located 5 km north-west of Strokestown, Co. Roscommon. The site contains a good example of alkaline fen vegetation. While the extent of the habitat is relatively small, it supports a range of typical species including scarce plants such as Eriophorum latifolium and several orchid species. Alkaline fen is nowadays a scarce habitat in Co. Roscommon. A population of Vertigo geyeri has been recorded at this site as recently as 2001. |
| Ardagullion Bog SAC | 5.0 km (Milkernagh) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Ardagullion is a small raised bog located 6 km north-east of Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford. The site comprises a substantial area of uncut high bog, though much of this is classified as degraded. Although Ardagullion Bog is rather small in terms of raised bog sites, the bog retains a relatively large and wet central area which is classified as active bog. A substantial area of Rhynchosporion vegetation is present, most of which is associated with the wet central active area. |
| Aughrim (Aghrane) Bog SAC | 4.8 km (Boughill) | – Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]** | Aughrim (Aghrane) Bog SAC occurs within the larger raised bog system that is designated as Aughrim Bog NHA (001227). It is located 4 km north-west of Ballygar, mainly in the townlands of Monasternallea (Abbeygrey), Knockaunrainy and Aghrane (Castlekelly) in Co. Galway. The site lies 2 km west of the River Suck. The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The site is bounded in parts by coniferous forestry to the south and north. The current landuse on the site is for nature conservation and the area is being restored under an EU LIFE project by Coillte. The plantation forestry which used to occupy parts of the high bog and cutover in the south and east of the site has been removed recently and the associated drains have been blocked. |
| Ballinturly Turlough SAC | 9.3 km (Boughill) | – Turloughs [3180] **[G]** | Ballinturly occupies a large v-shaped basin close to the River Suck and in contact with it in high floods. Ballinturly is the fourth largest active turlough still extant and has a wide range of habitat and vegetation. Despite a seasonal connection with the Suck the groundwater is oligotrophic enough to support normally calcifuge water plants. The site also is the base for a large wintering bird population, including Anser albifrons, which uses adjacent smaller sites also. |
| Ballygar (Aghrane) Bog SAC/ NHA | 4.0 km (Boughill) | – Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]** | Ballygar Bog is situated approximately 1 km north-west of Ballygar village, in the townlands of Hermitage and Ballygar, Co. Galway. The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The site consists of a small relatively intact bog. Hummocks/hollows and pools are found on the site with algal filled tear pools. Three small flushes are also found on the site. |
| Ballymore Fen SAC | 14.1 km (Edera) | – Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140] **[G]** | Ballymore Fen occupies a relatively wide and deep depression in drift deposits that are underlain by Carboniferous Limestone. The site is fed on both the east and west by springs, and there are small streams flowing from the north-east and south of the site. The site supports a good example of transition mire vegetation that occurs in association with alkaline fen and incipient raised bog. |
| Ballynamona Bog And Corkip Lough SAC | 8.3 km (Derryfadda) | – Turloughs [3180] **[R]**<br>– Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]** | Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough is a diverse site situated in Co. Roscommon, some 8 km west of Athlone. This site displays an excellent diversity of bog and wetland habitats. While the uncut high bog is mainly classified as degraded raised bog, there is a small area of active raised bog within a central wet flush zone. Rhynchosporion vegetation is also represented, with the presence of the scarce Rhynchospora fusca of some note. However, the presence of bog woodland is of particular note as it is considered as one of the best-formed and most extensive areas of bog woodland in the country. Corkip Lough constitutes a good example of a |

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| | | – Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]**<br>– Bog woodland [91D0] **[R]** | turlough system containing both a permanent water area and an extensive area of seasonally inundated turlough grassland. In addition, there are areas of species-rich calcareous grassland and fen which are of ecological interest. |
| Camderry Bog SAC | 9.6 km (Boughill) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Camderry Bog is a relatively large raised bog site which lies 12 km north-east of Mountbellew in east Co.Galway. A large proportion of the site (c.70%) comprises uncut high bog. Camderry Bog is one of the larger raised bog sites in east Galway (281 ha). Although there is a large area of high bog present, most of this is in a relatively dry state at present because of peripheral peat cutting and burning and is classified as degraded. |
| Carn Park Bog SAC | 13.8 km (Edera) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]** | Carn Park Bog lies approximately 8 km east of Athlone. It comprises an area of uncut high bog and surrounding cutover areas. Part of the high bog is active raised bog though the greater part is classified as degraded. Although a relatively large proportion of this site has been afforested, it still contains a substantial area of active raised bog. This is typical of the midland raised bog type, with hummock/hollow complexes, pools and Sphagnum lawns. |
| Carrownagappul Bog SAC | 7.4 km (Gowla) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | This important raised bog site supports good examples of the Annex I habitats active raised bog, degraded raised bog (capable of regeneration) and Rhynchosporion vegetation. It contains one of the largest extant areas of uncut high bog surface in East Galway and the area of active raised bog is also relatively large. The bog surface also contains a number of flushed areas including a very interesting wooded, swallow-hole flush system. |
| Castlesampson Esker SAC | 6.6 km (Castlesampson) | – Turloughs [3180] **[G]**<br>– Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210] **[G]** | The site is dominated by a steep-sided esker composed of glacial gravels. The vegetation of most of the esker is of dry grassland, with small amounts of scrub scattered throughout. The importance of this site lies in its almost intact structure, something that is very rare in Irish eskers, in its relatively undisturbed nature and in the presence of good quality, species-rich, dry, calcareous grassland. The absence of large blocks of scrub on the esker is notable. This grassland vegetation supports a rich variety of species, some of which are rare on eskers or in the midlands, including four orchid species. |
| Charleville Wood SAC | 12.6 km (Toar) | – Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] **[G]**<br>– Vertigo moulinsiana (Desmoulin's Whorl Snail) [1016] **[G]** | Considered one of a very few ancient woodlands in Ireland, with some parts undisturbed for at least 200 years. Notable for its size and the occurrence of several rare insect species, particularly Mycetobia obscura. The lake attracts locally to regionally important numbers of waterfowl. The site supports a large population of the rare snail Vertigo moulinsiana. |
| Clara Bog SAC | 12.8 km (Toar) | – Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210] **[R]**<br>– Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]**Bog woodland [91D0] [M] | Clara Bog is a very good example of a large midland raised bog which contains examples of the Annex I habitats active raised bog, degraded raised bog, bog woodland, depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion) and orchid-rich calcareous grassland. Clara Bog has been subject to detailed hydrological and ecological studies. |
| Clooneen Bog SAC | 0.4 km (Derrymoylin) | – Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]**<br>– Bog woodland [91D0] **[M]** | Clooneen Bog is located on the east bank of the River Shannon, approximately 3 km south-east of Roosky, Co. Longford. This is a relatively large midland raised bog complex which is one of the most northerly in the country. Although the high bog surface is rather dry and predominantly classified as degraded bog there is good habitat diversity, with wet bog woodland, pool systems and flush areas present. |
| Curraghlehanagh Bog SAC | 9.2 km (Gowla) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]** | Curraghlehanagh Bog is a medium-sized raised bog site located 6 km north of Mount Bellew village in the eastern half of County Galway. This site contains good examples of active raised bog, degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. |

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| | | – Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | |
| Derragh Bog SAC | 0.8 km (Coolcraff) | – Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– [91D0] Bog Woodland* **[R]** | Derragh Bog SAC includes most of the raised bog system known as Derragh Bog which occurs within Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough NHA (000985). The boundary in the west and south of the site is contiguous with the boundary of Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA (site code 004061). |
| Four Roads Turlough SAC | 2.9 km (Boughill) | – Turloughs [3180] **[G]** | Four Roads Turlough lies 2.5 km from the Suck River. It is an open, shallow basin without permanent standing water. It seems to flood predictably and dry out quite early. The vegetation is uniform in general and of two main types - grass in the east and sedges in the west. The site is used as a refuge or feeding area by herbivorous wildfowl and waders – some of which occur in numbers of national importance. |
| Garriskil Bog SAC | 0.2 km (Coolnagaun) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Garriskil bog is a medium-sized raised bog site which contains good examples of the Annex I habitats active raised bog, degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). A large proportion of the uncut high bog (c. 40%) comprises very wet active raised bog, an unusually high figure for raised bogs in the eastern half of the country. |
| Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC / NHA | 12.9 km (Bracklin) | – Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]** | Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC occurs within the larger raised bog system that is designated as Girley Bog NHA (001580). It is situated 5.5 km north of Athboy in the townland of Drewstown, Co. Meath. The site is part of a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. It is bordered by open high bog on its northern and eastern margins, by agricultural land on its western margin and by a conifer plantation on cutover bog on its southern side.<br><br>Most of the conifers in the SAC were removed and the intensive drainage system associated with it was blocked by 2013 as part of an EU LIFE-funded Coillte project so as to raise the water table and restore Active Raised Bog on the site. With the clear-felling of conifers and blocking of drains, water-levels on the high bog have risen and remain high throughout the year. As a consequence, raised bog vegetation has returned to the wetter areas of the high bog. |
| Glenloughaun Esker SAC | 9.3 km (Castlegar) | – Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brorneta/ia) (important orchid sites) [6210] **[G]** | This small site is situated on an esker ridge approximately 5 km south-west of Ballinasloe in Co. Galway. It comprises mostly unimproved dry grassland. A feature of the site is the somewhat unusual mixture of calcicole and calcifuge species. |
| Killeglan Grassland SAC | 2.3 km (Derryfadda) | – Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210] **[G]** | Species rich calcareous grassland covers 81% of the site and in places forms a mosaic with scrub and shattered limestone outcrops. The site is one of the most important sites in Ireland for the legally protected species of orchid *Orchis morio* (Flora Protection Order 1987). |
| Lisduff Turlough SAC | 6.2 km (Boughill) | – Turloughs [3180] **[G]** | Lisduff turlough has a semi-permanent inflow from the north-west arm and the site is relatively wet with good development of fen peat. The turlough has a good zonation of oligotrophic vegetation which is unusual. It has more breeding waders (including dunlin) than other sites of comparable size and in winter supports a good diversity and population of wildfowl. |
| Lough Bane And Lough Glass SAC | 13.2 km (Coolcraff) | – Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140] **[G]**<br>– Austropotamobius pallipes (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092] **[G]** | The site is situated in a shallow valley on the headwaters of the River Deel. A small but diverse marl lake, with well developed Chara communities, including such species as *Chara globularis, C. contraria, C. rudis and C. curta*. Water quality is good with no apparent signs of pollution. The lake formerly had a good population of *Austropotamobius pallipes* but the entire population had become extinct by 1987, probably due to crayfish fungus plague. Habitat for crayfish remains suitable and there are plans for a reintroduction scheme. |
| Lough Croan Turlough SAC | 5.3 km (Boughill) | – Turloughs [3180] **[G]** | Loagh Croan lies in a flattish area of glacial till without limestone outcrops. It is split into two main parts – the east functions as a typical turlough with a wet, reedy centre. The west is a fen, floating in places, which also floods in winter. The site is a diverse wetland with fen, reedswamp and turlough communities in juxtaposition. While it all floods at times it seems drier now than it would naturally be. It still contains a large flora which includes Rorippa islandica - a turlough speciality. |
| Lough Ennell SAC | 6.7 km (Toar) | – Alkaline fens [7230] **[G]** | Lough Ennel is a large open steep-sided limestone lake situated on the River Brosna within the Shannon catchment. A good diversity of charophytes have been recorded, including some of the rare species of calcareous water. Some good alkaline fen fringes the lake in parts. |
| Lough Funshinagh SAC | 10.3 km (Boughill) | – Turloughs [3180] **[G]**<br>– Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270] **[G]** | Lough Funshinagh is classified as a turlough since it fluctuates to a significant extent every year and occasionally dries out entirely. The site is most unusual for its size and intermittent drying and provides a waterfowl breeding area of exceptional quality. It is relatively unaffected by drainage and intensive agriculture so its vegetation structure is very interesting. |

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| Lough Lene SAC | 10.1 km (Coolnagun) | – Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140] **[G]**<br>– Austropotamobius pallipes (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092] **[G]** | A small to medium sized hard water marl lake in a fairly natural condition. A single sampling indicated a diverse Charophyte community including two marl lake indicators (Chara curta, C. pendunculata). Water quality is generally good though likely to have received increased loading of nutrients from agricultural catchment in recent years. The site supported Austropotamobius pallipes prior to 1987 before eradication by crayfish fungus Aphanomyces astaci. A re-introduction programme has been successful and the species is now breeding again at the site. |
| Lough Lurgeen Bog/Glenamaddy Turlough SAC | 13.3 km (Boughill) | – Turloughs [3180] **[R]**<br>– Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270] **[M]**<br>– Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Lough Lurgeen bog and Glenamaddy turlough is one of the largest and most important wetland sites in Ireland. The site supports very good examples of the Annex I habitats active raised bog, turlough, degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. The raised bog present constitutes the second largest extant area of uncut raised bog surface in the country. The turlough system is also large and is important from an ornithological point of view supporting populations of Anser albifrons flavirostris, Cygnus columbianus bewickii and Cygnus cygnus. The combination of raised bog, turlough and linking stream is unique in Ireland and probably does not occur elsewhere in the world. |
| Lough Owel SAC | 5.5 km (Coolnagun) | – Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140] **[G]**<br>– Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140] **[G]**<br>– Alkaline fens [7230] **[G]**<br>– Austropotamobius pallipes (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092] **[G]** | Lough Owel is a large calcareous lake in the Shannon Catchment. Charophyte vegetation is well developed and includes some rare species of calcareous waters. The site holds a good population of Austropotamobius pallipes and good examples of transition mires and also some alkaline fen. A number of Red Data plant species and important invertebrate species occur at the site. The site is also an important bird site. |
| Moneybeg And Clareisland Bogs SAC | 2.7 km (Coolcraff) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs are two small raised bogs, separated by approximately 400 metres, which are situated along the southern shores of Lough Sheelin. This site contains good examples of active raised bog, degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. The areas of raised bog support a well-developed peatland flora and contain a number of wet pool areas. Of the two areas it appears that Moneybeg Bog contains higher quality raised bog habitat although the margins of Moneybeg have a more extensive surrounding cutover area. |
| Mount Hevey Bog SAC | 3.3 km (Ballivor) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Mount Hevey is a large midland raised bog, which is situated 3 km north-east of Kinnegad village. Mount Hevey Bog is one of the most easterly, relatively intact raised bogs in Ireland and represents one of the largest bog areas in the eastern half of the country. Although more than half of the site area consists of cutover bog, there is a large area of active raised bog. A substantial area of uncut high bog that is classified as degraded raised big is present. The bog, and especially the active parts, contains substantial areas of Rhynchosporion vegetation which have a typical species composition and generally exist in a well-preserved condition. |
| Mountmellick SAC | 10.8 km (Ballykeane) | – Vertigo moulinsiana (Desmoulin's Whorl Snail) [1016] **[G]** | Site comprises a disused section of the Grand Canal at Dangan's Bridge, approximately 3 km east of Mountmellick in Co. Laois. The habitat is fen type vegetation, with Typha latifolia, Glyceria maxima and Iris pseudacorus. Site contains a relict population of Vertigo moulinsiana. |
| Raheenmore Bog SAC | 0.8 km (Toar) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Raheenmore Bog is a medium-sized, midland raised bog site which contains good examples of the priority Annex I habitat active raised bog and the non-priority habitats degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). These habitats are generally of good quality. Most of the site is owned by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and there has been considerable research and restoration carried out on the site over the past 15 years. |
| River Barrow And River Nore SAC | 7.4 km (Ballykeane) | – Estuaries [1130] **[M]**<br>– Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] **[M]**<br>– Reefs [1170] **[M]** | This large site consists of the freshwater stretches of the Barrow/Nore River catchments as far upstream as the Slieve Bloom Mountains. The Barrow is tidal as far upriver as Graiguenamanagh while the Nore is tidal as far upriver as Inishtioge. The site also includes the extreme lower reaches of the River Suir and all of the estuarine component of Waterford Harbour extending to Creadan Head. |

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| | | – Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] **[M]**<br>– Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330] **[R]**<br>– Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410] **[R]**<br>– Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260] **[M]**<br>– European dry heaths [4030]<br>– Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430] **[M]**<br>– Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220] **[M]**<br>– Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] **[R]**<br>– Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] **[R]**<br>– Vertigo moulinsiana (Desmoulin's Whorl Snail) [1016] **[M]**<br>– Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029] **[U]**<br>– Austropotamobius pallipes (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092] **[M]**<br>– Petromyzon marinus (Sea Lamprey) [1095] **[R]**<br>– Lampetra planeri (Brook Lamprey) [1096] **[R]**<br>– Lampetra fluviatilis (River Lamprey) [1099] **[R]**<br>– Alosa fallax fallax (Twaite Shad) [1103] **[R]**<br>– Salmo salar (Salmon) [1106] **[R]**<br>– Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355] **[R]**<br>– Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421] **[M]**<br>– Margaritifera durrovensis (Nore Pearl Mussel) [1990] **[R]** | A wide range of habitats associated with the rivers are included within the site, including substantial areas of woodland (deciduous, mixed), dry heath, wet grassland, swamp and marsh vegetation, salt marshes, a small dune system and intertidal sand and mud flats. Areas of improved grassland, arable land and coniferous plantations are included in the site for water quality reasons. The site supports many Annexed habitats including the priority habitats of alluvial woodland and petrifying springs. Quality of habitat is generally good. The site also supports a number of Annex II animal species. |
| River Boyne And River Blackwater SAC | 0.8 km (Bracklin) | – Alkaline fens [7230] **[G]**<br>– Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and<br>– Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] **[G]**<br>– Lampetra fluviatilis (River Lamprey) | This large site consists of the freshwater stretches of the River Boyne as far as the Boyne Aqueduct, the Blackwater as far as Lough Ramor and the Boyne tributaries including the Deel, Stoneyford and Tremblestown Rivers. |

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| | | [1099] **[G]**<br>– Salmo salar (Salmon) [1106] **[G]**<br>– Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355] **[G]** | This system drains a considerable area of Cos. Meath and Westmeath and smaller areas of Cavan and Louth. The rivers flow through a landscape dominated by intensive agriculture, mostly of improved grassland but also cereals. Much of the river channels were subject to arterial drainage schemes in the past. Natural flood-plains now exist along only limited stretches of river, though often there is a fringe of reed swamp, freshwater marsh, wet grassland or deciduous wet woodland.<br><br>The main channel of the Boyne contains a good example of alluvial woodland of the Salicetum albo-fragilis type which has developed on three alluvium islands. Alkaline fen vegetation is well represented at Lough Shesk, where there is a very fine example of habitat succession from open water to raised bog. The Boyne and its tributaries is one of Ireland's premier game fisheries and offers a wide range of angling, from fishing for spring salmon and grilse to sea trout fishing and extensive brown trout fishing. The site is one of the most important in eastern Ireland for Salmo salar and has very extensive spawning grounds. The site also has an important population of Lampetra fluviatilis, though the distribution or abundance of this species is not well known.<br><br>Lutra lutra is widespread throughout the site. Some of the grassland areas along the Boyne and Blackwater are used by a nationally important winter flock of Cygnus cygnus. Several Red Data Book plants occur within the site, with Pyrola rotundifolia, Poa palustris and Juncus compressus. Also occurring are a number of Red Data Book animals, notably Meles meles, Martes martes and Rana temporaria. The River Boyne is a designated Salmonid Water under the EU Freshwater Fish Directive. |
| River Shannon Callows SAC | 14.8 km (Castlegar) | – Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410] **[G]**<br>– Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510] **[G]**<br>– Limestone pavements [8240] **[G]**<br>– Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] **[G]**<br>– Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355] **[G]** | The River Shannon Callows is a long and diverse site which consists of seasonally flooded, semi-natural, lowland wet grassland, along and beside the river between the towns of Athlone and Portumna.<br><br>This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and Britain and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. It has been placed among the most 'natural' floodplains in western Europe. It is subject to regular and prolonged annual winter flooding. Botanically, it is extremely diverse with two legally protected species of plants and many scarce species. Excellent examples of two habitats listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive occur within the site – Molinia meadows and lowland hay meadows with good examples of a further two Annex habitats (both with priority status).<br><br>In winter the site is internationally important for numbers and species of waterfowl. In spring it feeds large numbers of birds on migration, and in summer it holds very large numbers of breeding waders, rare breeding birds and the endangered Corncrake, as well as a very wide variety of more common grassland and wetland birds. The presence of otter, an Annex II species, adds further importance to the site. |
| Scragh Bog SAC | 8.8 km (Coolnagun) | – Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140] **[G]**<br>– Alkaline fens [7230] **[G]**<br>– Drepanocladus vernicosus (Slender Green Feather-moss) [1393] **[G]** | This area is a wet transition mire with a floating root mat developed in a small oval shaped depression. A small but exceptionally fine example of fen habitat, with transitions to transition mire, fen carr and ombrotrophic bog. Very little disturbance and in a near-natural condition, the site contains a rich diversity of species, including 3 Red Data plants, several national rarities and an interesting invertebrate fauna. Probably the best example of its type in Ireland. |
| Shankill West Bog SAC | 12.6 km (Gowla) | – Active raised bogs [7110] **[R]**<br>– Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]**<br>– Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] **[R]** | Shankill West Bog is one of the best examples of a relatively small raised bog site in the country and contains good examples of the Annex 1 habitats active raised bog, degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). The high bog dome contains a wet central core of active raised bog which is of high quality, containing extensive quaking lawns and pool systems. |
| Split Hills And Long Hill Esker SAC | 1.4 km (Toar) | – Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brorneta/ia)(impoiant orchid sites) [6210] **[G]** | A linear site approximately 7km long which comprises, for the most part, an esker ridge composed of glacial sand and gravel. This is one of the finest wooded esker ridges remaining in the country and constitutes one of the few woodlands in the area. In places a very rich ground flora is found in the woods. Species-rich calcareous grassland is found in many areas of the site. |
| The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC | 8.5 km (Esker) | – Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210] | This site is partially owned by Bord na Móna Energy Limited (as part of Glashabaun North). Located between Glashabaun North and Ticknevin bogs, south-east of Edenderry, the Long Derries, Edenderry SAC is part of a low esker ridge running from Edenderry to Rathdangan. It primarily consists of glacial gravels interspersed with loam and peat soil. This is an important site for several reasons. It supports good quality dry, calcareous esker grassland in which occurs a substantial population of the rare and protected Orchis morio |

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| White Lough, Ben Loughs And Lough Doo SAC | 10.4 km (Coolcraff) | – Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140] **[G]**<br>– Austropotamobius pallipes (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092] **[G]** | Site is on the headwaters of the River Deel, and close to Loughs Bane and Lene. It is situated in a narrow poorly drained valley. Comprises a chain of interlinked lakes, of which White Lough is the largest. Although small, this is a good example of an oligotrophic system which is not showing any obvious signs of eutrophication. Noted for its diversity of marginal wetland vegetation. Interest of site is increased by presence of Austropotamobius pallipes and Lutra lutra. |
| Wooddown Bog SAC / NHA | 10.1 km (Derryhinch) | – Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] **[R]** | Wooddown Bog is situated approximately 4km east of Mullingar in the townlands of Curraghmore, Macetown and Wooddown in Co. Westmeath. This site supports a good diversity of raised bog microhabitats, including hummock/hollow complexes, a soak system and flushes, as well as a number of scarce plant species. With the clear-felling of conifers and blocking of drains, water-levels have risen and now remain high throughout the year. In some areas conditions in the wet flats and hollows are now suitable to support even the most drainage sensitive species. As a consequence, raised bog vegetation has returned to the high bog. |
| Lough Derravaragh SPA / NHA | 0.5 km (Coolnagun) | – Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038] **[G]**<br>– Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059] **[G]**<br>– Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061] **[G]**<br>– Coot (Fulica atra) [A125] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | Lough Derravaragh is a medium- to large-sized lake of relatively shallow water. It extends along a SE-NW axis for approximately 8 km. The Inny River, a tributary of the River Shannon, is the main inflowing and outflowing river. Lough Derravaragh is one of the most important midland lakes for wintering waterfowl. The majority of the site comprises the lake, but it also includes a variety of wetland, grassland and woodland habitats. The site includes a small area of raised bog. |
| Lough Ennell SPA | 7.8 lm (Toar) | – Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059] **[G]**<br>– Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061] **[G]**<br>– Coot (Fulica atra) [A125] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | Lough Ennell is a large, limestone lake. It is approximately 6.5 km long and is mostly c. 2 km wide. The River Brosna is the principal inflowing and outflow river. Lough Ennell is one of the most important midland lakes for wintering waterfowl. The site is an important trout fishery. |
| Glen Lough SPA | 7.4 km (Coolnagun) | – Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038] **[G]** | The main importance of this site is that it is used (along with Lough Iron and other sites) at times by an internationally important population of Cygnus cygnus. Glen Lough had practically no surface water owing to extensive drainage in the 1960s which resulted in a dramatic drop in the water table. However, the area does flood in the winter months. Since 2005 there has been active management of the site to retain water, including the construction of embankments. Sedge-dominated freshwater marsh now occupies the majority of the site. |
| Lough Iron SPA | 4.4 km (Coolnagun) | – Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038] **[G]**<br>– Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050] **[G]**<br>– Teal (Anas crecca) [A052] **[G]**<br>– Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056] **[G]**<br>– Coot (Fulica atra) [A125] **[G]**<br>– Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140] **[G]**<br>– Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | Lough Iron is a small- to moderately-sized Midland lake. It is situated on the Inny River, which flows from Lough Derravaragh approximately 5 km to the north-east. Drainage of the River Inny in the 1960s has led to a dramatic drop in the level of the lake and this in turn has led to the development of freshwater marsh and wet grassland on what was previously lake bed. Lough Iron is one of the most important Midland lakes for wintering waterfowl. It supports an internationally important population of Greenland White-fronted Goose and is the main feeding site for this flock which uses a suite of Midland lakes. |
| Lough Owel SPA | 5.5 km (Lough Owel) | – Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056] **[G]**<br>– Coot (Fulica atra) [A125] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | Lough Owel is a medium- to large-sized lake, measuring approximately 6 km along its long axis and with a maximum width of 3 km. It is fed by a number of small streams and the main outflow is to the Royal Canal. Lough Owel is one of the most important Midland lakes for wintering waterfowl. |
| Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA / NHA | 0.3 km (Coolcraff) | – Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059] **[G]**<br>– Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | Lough Kinale is a relatively small lake that is situated immediately downstream of Lough Sheelin and is at the top of the catchment of the Inny River, a main tributary of the River Shannon. Derragh Lough, a much smaller system, is connected to Lough Kinale and the Inny River outlet. Despite very variable water quality in recent decades, Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough remain an important site for wintering waterfowl, especially diving duck.<br><br>There are peatland areas adjacent to 2 sides of Lough Kinale, one bog area separating it from Derragh Lough. |
| Lough Sheelin SPA | 3.1 km (Coolcraff) | – Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005] **[G]** | Lough Sheelin is a medium- to large-sized lake, with a maximum length of 7 km. The lake lies at the top of the Inny River, a main tributary of the River Shannon. Despite very variable water quality in recent decades, Lough Sheelin remains a very important site for wintering waterfowl and especially diving duck. |

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| | | – Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059] **[G]**<br>– Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061] **[G]**<br>– Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | |
| Middle Shannon Callows SPA | 14.8 km (Castlegar) | – Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038] **[G]**<br>– Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050] **[G]**<br>– Corncrake (Crex crex) [A122] **[G]**<br>– Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140] **[G]**<br>– Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142] **[G]**<br>– Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156] **[G]**<br>– Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | The site follows the River Shannon from Athlone, just below Lough Ree, to Portumna, just above Lough Derg, a distance of over 50 km. This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. Along with its main tributaries the River Suck and River Brosna, it represents one of the most important wetland systems in the country. It is of International Importance for wintering waterfowl as numbers regularly exceed the 20,000 threshold. The Shannon callows are also of high importance for breeding birds. |
| River Suck Callows SPA / NHA | 0 km (Boughill/ Castlegar) | – Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038] **[G]**<br>– Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050] **[G]**<br>– Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140] **[G]**<br>– Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142] **[G]**<br>– Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | The River Suck is the largest tributary of the River Shannon. The site follows the river from Castlecoote, near Fuerty to its confluence with the River Shannon, a distance of approximately 70 km of river course. The main habitat is grassland, improved to varying extents, that is seasonally flooded. The less improved areas are species-rich. The River Suck Callows is an important site for wintering waterfowl, with an internationally important population of Greenland White-fronted Goose centred within the site. This is one of the largest flocks in the country outside of the Wexford Slobs.<br><br>The presence of raised bog is of considerable conservation significance as it is a rare habitat in the E.U. and one that is becoming increasingly scarce and under threat in Ireland. The site supports a good diversity of raised bog microhabitats, including hummocks and pools. Ireland has a high proportion of the total E.U. resource of raised bog (over 50%) and so has a special responsibility for its conservation at an international level. The site is of major ornithological importance. |
| Garriskil Bog SPA | 0.2 km (Coolnagun) | – Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395] **[G]** | Site lies 3 km west of Lough Derravaragh in Co. Westmeath. It is bounded to the southeast and southwest by the rivers Inny and Riffey. Garriskil bog is a medium-sized raised bog site which contains good examples of the Annex 1 habitats active raised bog, degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). The site is in the range of the midland lakes flock of wintering Greenland White-fronted Goose which is centred on four major lakes (Derravaragh, Iron, Owel and Ennel). There are 16 known feeding sites, mostly on intensively managed grassland. |
| Lough Croan Turlough SPA | 5.2 km (Boughill) | – Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056] **[G]**<br>– Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140] **[G]**<br>– Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | Situated approximately 6 km west of the River Suck in Co. Roscommon, Lough Croan is a linear wetland, aligned north-west/south-east. Lough Croan turlough is an important site for wintering waterfowl. The wintering waterfowl are monitored annually. Much of the site is a Wildfowl Sanctuary. |
| Four Roads Turlough SPA | 2.9 km (Boughill) | – Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140] **[G]**<br>– Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395] **[G]**<br>– Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] **[G]** | Four Roads Turlough lies 2.5 km from the Suck River. It is an open, shallow basin without permanent standing water. It seems to flood predictably and dry out quite early. The vegetation is uniform in general and of two main types - grass in the east and sedges in the west. The site is used as a refuge or feeding area by herbivorous wildfowl and waders – some of which occur in numbers of national importance. |
| Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA | 14.5 km (Ballykeane) | – Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082] **[G]** | The site has a near continuous ridge of mountain blanket bog, with wet and dry heaths also well represented. This SPA is one of the strongholds for Hen Harrier in the country and, indeed, is the most easterly regular population. The mix of forestry and open areas provides optimum habitat conditions for this rare bird. |

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| River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA | 0.8 km (Bracklin) | – Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) [A229] **[G]** | The River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA is a long, linear site that comprises stretches of the River Boyne and several of its tributaries. It is of high ornithological importance as it supports a nationally important population of Kingfisher. A survey in 2010 recorded 19 pairs of Kingfisher (based on 15 probable and 4 possible territories) in the SPA. |
| Clooncullaun Bog NHA | 11.2 km (Boughill) | – Peatlands (4) | The site consists of a small basin bog with a flat, wet surface which is quaking in places. Towards the north-east there is a complex of pools, hummocks and hollows and to the south-west and south-east there are two areas with small hummocks and algal pools. Three flushes with swallow holes occur on the bog. Cutover is found all around the site apart from the middle of the southern margin. |
| Crit Island West NHA | 3.2 km (Castlegar) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The northern margin of the site is bounded by a road, while the other margins are bounded by areas of cutover and grassland. |
| Funshin Bog NHA | 11.0 km (Boughill) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The site is bounded in the south-west by a local road. There are areas of well developed hummocks that are most prominent on the eastern side of the bog. There is one area of flush in the south-west of the site. Cutover is found all around the site. |
| Castle Ffrench West Bog NHA | 0.6 km (Gowla) | – Peatlands (4) | The site is a raised bog consisting of areas of both high bog and cutover. The high bog is divided into two parts - an eastern, low quality part with tear pools and the western two-thirds, which is of good quality with a high dome. |
| Keeloges Bog NHA | 13.7 km (Boughill) | – Peatlands (4) | This site is made up of two areas of high bog that are bisected by a road. The eastern section of the site is dry due to a large number of major drains, the western section has an extensive area of hummocks and pools and is wet and quaking in areas. There is one flush in the west of the site. Coniferous forestry is found on three small sections of the high bog and associated cutover in the north, west and south-west of the site. Cutover is found all around the site. |
| Kilmore Bog NHA | 5.7 km (Boughill) | – Peatlands (4) | This is a medium sized bog with hummocks and pools and a central area that is wet and quaking. There is one large wooded flush in the east of the site. There is a small forestry plantation on cutover in the north of the site. Cutover is found all around the site. |
| Leaha Bog NHA | 13.7 km (Boughill) | – Peatlands (4) | The site is part of a large bog complex that is now separated by roads and cutover that has been reclaimed for agriculture. Leaha Bog is separated from Funshin Bog NHA (267) by a road, and a tributary of the Shiven River separates Leaha Bog from Camderry Bog NHA (240) and Clooncullaun Bog NHA (245). Leaha Bog has a shallow dome with low hummocks throughout the bog; the site does have pools but they are colonised by algae. In the south-west of the site there is coniferous forestry on the high bog. Cutover is found all around the site. |
| Aghnamona Bog NHA | 1.2 km (Derrymoylin) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a large flat raised bog, separated into four lobes by a railway line and the main Longford/Carrick-on-Shannon road. The fragmented nature of the high bog has led to the overall desiccation of this habitat, particularly to the eastern lobes. Cutover bog occurs around much of the larger western lobe. Regeneration has occurred on some areas of cutover around the high bog margins. A large flush runs along the centre of the main western lobe. |
| Black Castle Bog NHA | 4.8 km (Esker) | – Peatlands (4) | The site consists of one crescent-shaped lobe, which is quite flat. There is an absence of permanent pools on the high bog. The raised bog is of particular interest as it is one of the most easterly remaining raised bogs in the country. The peripheral area of abandoned cutover bog has developed into a range of different habitats. |
| Derrycanan Bog NHA | 4.6 km (Moher) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a relatively large raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The northern, western and eastern boundaries are bounded by trackways and those to the south by a stream.<br>The raised bog habitat consists of a large dome of high bog divided into three sections by a trackway and a road. The high bog is flat with slopes associated with central drains and along the bog margins. The fragmented nature of the high bog has led to the overall desiccation of this habitat. Tear pools are present on the high bog and there is a large flush, possibly due to secondary wetting, in the north-east of the site. A smaller flush occurs in the southern section with associated swallow holes. Cutover bog occurs around all the margins of the high bog and there is regenerating cutover present either side of the central trackway. |
| Cloncrow Bog (New Forest) NHA | 1.3 km (Toar) | – Peatlands (4) | The site consists of a raised bog which has developed in a basin. The bog has good hummock/hollow microtopography, pools, quaking areas, a swallow hole, a small flush and forestry on high bog. The cutover supports humid grassland, improved grassland, small areas of Downy Birch (Betula pubescens) woodland and scrub, and forestry. |
| Rinn River NHA | 2.6 km (Derrymoylin) | – Peatlands (4) | The main habitat in the site is wet grassland on the floodplains of the Rinn River. These wet meadows are subject to prolonged flooding in winter and early spring and freshwater marsh occurs at the river margins. At Bellageeher the site incorporates a small fairly dry lowland raised bog. This consists of a small dome of high bog with associated cutover and lies on the western bank of the Rinn River. |
| Screggan Bog NHA | 13.5 km (Daingean) | – Peatlands (4) | Screggan Bog consists of three main sections divided by roads and tracks. There are areas with occasional small pools, and some poorly developed hummock/hollow systems in the largest section. Much of the bog is quite dry due to drainage and peat-cutting at the margin. An unusual feature is the extensive colonisation of its south-east portion by Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). There are large areas of coniferous forestry on the cutover areas of the site, along with areas of deciduous woodland and scrub. |

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| Castle Ffrench East Bog NHA | 0 km (Gowla) | – Peatlands (4) | The site is a raised bog consisting of areas of both high bog and cutover. The high bog has active bog moss (Sphagnum spp.) growth and small pool systems to the north, west and east, some of which have dried out, indicating a lowering water-table. Two series of swallow-holes and two flushed areas are also present. There are also a number of overgrown drains to the north of the high bog. Flooded cutover, wet grassland and dry grassland occur around the margins of the high bog. There is also a small wet woodland and a small dry semi-natural woodland present on the site. |
| Derrinlough Bog NHA | 14.6 km (Gowla) | – Peatlands (4) | The site consists of two main habitats raised bog and fen. The raised bog includes both areas of high bog and cutover. The fen occurs on the in-filled lake called Derrin Lough to the north of the site. There is wet woodland encroaching into the fen and scrub occurs on the old cutover. The site is bounded by agricultural grassland and an esker ridge borders the site to the north. |
| Killure Bog NHA | 2.0 km (Castlegar) | – Peatlands (4) | The site consists of two sections of high bog. The western section comprises an area of quaking bog with hummocks and pools occurring in the centre. There is a flush on the eastern margin of the western section. Two other flushes appear on the aerial photographs. The eastern section has been afforested. Cutover and drainage channels occur all around the margins of the high bog. |
| Jamestown Bog NHA | 14.8 km (Bracklin) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The site is bounded on all sides by coniferous forestry and old cutover.<br>The raised bog consists of two flat, elongated lobes, separated by areas of cutover bog and coniferous forestry. The eastern lobe is the largest and contains areas which are quaking, with small, infilling pools and also some dry hummocks. There are large areas of both abandoned and active cutting around the high bog, along with areas of coniferous forestry. |
| Carbury Bog NHA | 9.9 km (Kinnegad) | – Peatlands (4) | The site consists of four sections separated by the old Edenderry railway line and the Carbury-Broadford road. Overall the southern section is quite wet with good hummock/hollow development. There is some marginal scrub woodland along the margins of the small western section. A narrow strip of deciduous woodland cuts through the main section in line with the old railway. |
| Cashel Bog (Leitrim) NHA | 5.5 km (Derrymoylin) | – Peatlands (4) | This is a small bog, situated between drumlins and surrounded by agricultural land. Corracramph Bog NHA lies adjacent to the west of the site.<br>Most of the bog surface is wet and there is good pool development in places. A small area of wet scrub occurs to the south and west of the site. Old abandoned cutaway is found to the east. |
| Corracramph Bog NHA | 4.1 km (Derrymoylin) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The site is bounded in the north by a local road running from Dromod to Lough Rinn and in the south by a local road running from Roosky towards Lough Rinn. This site is the remnant of a larger bog that is now cutover and reclaimed for agriculture, the original bog has also been split up by a network of roads. This bog is split by a mineral ridge, which is a general feature of the local landscape with long mineral ridges running between areas of raised bog. Another interesting feature of the locality is that the bedrock under the peat is sandstone and shale. There are areas of hummocks throughout the high bog and pools in the centre and north of the site. There is an in-filling lake in the north of the site and a flush just south of the lake. Cutover is found mostly in the north and south-east of this site. |
| Cloonageeher Bog NHA | 3.9 km (Derrymoylin) | – Peatlands (4) | Cloonageeher Bog consists of one main lobe of high bog, but this has been somewhat dissected by a number of old tracks. There are wet areas on the high bog which consist of flushes and a small area with pools and hummock/hollow systems at the south-west of the site. A mineral ridge protrudes into the site at the north. Active peat-cutting is carried out around much of the site, but mainly at the south and north. |
| Forthill Bog NHA | 0.7 km (Derrycolumb) | – Peatlands (4) | This bog is 4 km south-west of the Ballymahon to Lanesbourogh road (R392) and can be accessed from local roads to the south-east and bog tracks to the west and north-west of the site. It is bounded by mineral soil to the east, improved grassland and cutover to the west and Birch scrub on cutover to the north. The site consists of a small raised bog with a single dome of high bog and associated cutover. The main features of interest are the pools, flushes and wetter areas of the high bog. Towards the north-east of the high bog, there is a good though somewhat limited pool system and a small flush is present to the south-east. |
| Molerick Bog NHA | 3.9 km (Ballivor) | – Peatlands (4) | The site consists of a small basin bog with a dry surface. Cutover is found all around the site, there is broadleaved woodland located to the south-west, wet woodland is located to the north-west, scrub to the east, humid grassland to the south, a flush/fen area to the west and humid grassland on mineral soil to the north-west. |
| Nure Bog NHA | 7.9 km (Toar) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog and adjoins Lough Ennell to the east. This raised bog was originally part of a larger area that has now been mostly cutover and reclaimed for agriculture. Although this bog has no pools there are hummocks throughout the high bog. Cutover is found all around the high bog and there is an area of coniferous forestry on the cutover in the south of the site. |
| Lough Garr NHA | 2.4 km (Coolnagun) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises of a mosaic of habitats which include a small raised bog, marsh, wet woodland, humid grassland and dry grassland. The site is bounded by a main road to the west and local roads to the south and east.<br>The raised bog on the site consists of two areas of high bog, which have been divided by a bog road. The bog surface is relatively dry. There is a flush located in the south-west section of the high bog and a marsh occurs to the east of the site in what was once Lough Garr lake. Cutover is found all around the north, west and south of the site and along the bog road. |
| Daingean Bog NHA | 0 km (Clonad) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The northern and southern margins of the site are bounded by roads, and agricultural fields form most of the boundaries at the east and west of the site. The site consists of two main lobes. The northern lobe is much larger than the southern |

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| | | | one and forms the majority of the high bog in the site. The lobes are separated by a drain running through a narrow, low-lying section between them. The cutover areas surrounding the site have, for the most part, been reclaimed for agriculture. The bog is of particular interest as it is one of the most easterly remaining raised bogs in the country. |
| Lisnanarriagh Bog NHA | 1.6 km (Moher) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a relatively small raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutaway. The site margins are bounded by agricultural land, and the site lies just 1km from the boundary to Lough Ree cSAC (440) at the Clooneigh River. The high bog consists of a small dome divided in two by a track running north-west, south-east. Mature Birch woodland occurs on cutover around much of the southern lobe. Cutover bog surrounds the majority of the northern lobe and some reclaimed grassland also occurs. A small area of commercial forestry is found to the south-west. |
| Milltownpass Bog NHA | 1.6 km (Derryhinch) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog and can be accessed from the local road off the N6 to the east of the site. This bog has pools present and is wet and quaking in places. The wet areas are formed by re-wetting of depressions on the high bog surface caused by subsidence. There is very little drainage on the high bog and no forestry. Cutover is found all around the high bog margins with encroaching scrub and a forestry plantation. Broad-leaved woodland occurs to the west of the site. |
| Annaghbeg Bog NHA | 0 km (Castlegar) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. This raised bog was originally part of an extensive system of bogs that, with the exception for Annaghbeg, have now been cutover. Annaghbeg Bog is in close proximity to Crit Island NHA (254) and Killure Bog NHA (1283). Although this bog has no pools it is wet and quaking in places with hummocks throughout the high bog. Cutover is found all around the high bog. |
| Hawkswood Bog NHA | 11.6 km (Clonad) | – Peatlands (4) | The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog and adjoins Clonard Wood NHA (574) to the west. It can be accessed from the local road to the south of the site. This raised bog is at the southern extreme of the range of raised bogs in Ireland and is in close proximity to Screggan Bog NHA (921) and Pallis Lough NHA (916). The high bog has pools present and is still wet and quaking in places with very little drainage and no forestry. The wet areas occur in depressions on the high bog causing re-wetting of the bog surface. Cutover is found all around the high bog margins. There are esker ridges with broadleaved woodland to the south and north of the site. |