

# NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE REPORT

Lough Corrib cSAC (000297)

Formal Appeal No. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is appealing the inclusion of three parcels of land, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Lough Corrib cSAC, Co. Galway. This appeal has previously been known as [REDACTED]

## Locations of appeal sites:

**Sites A and B:** [REDACTED] (Appendices 1-3)

These sites are located in the townland of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Site A** was approximately [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Site B** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Site C:** [REDACTED] Lough Corrib cSAC (Appendices 4-6)

T [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[Redacted text block]

T [Redacted text block]

This report is based on NPWS file data and a site visit by C. Peppiatt that was made on:  
**Sites A and B:** 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2008.  
**Site C:** 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2008.

### Summary of recommendations

#### Sites A and B

(1) Sites A and B both lie [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] It is therefore recommended that these sites should remain within the SAC.

#### Site C

(1) Site C is of high conservation value because of the presence of the priority habitat [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
(2) Two small areas- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
can be excluded from the SAC.

### Appendices

- Appendix 1. Map showing the location of Sites A and B.
- Appendix 2. Map showing the location of Sites A and B within the cSAC.
- Appendix 3. Aerial photograph showing Sites A and B in the year 2005.
- Appendix 4. Map showing the location of Site C.
- Appendix 5. Map showing the location of Site C within the cSAC.
- Appendix 6. Aerial photograph showing Site C in the year 2005.
- Appendix 7. Suggested exclusions from the SAC.

### Water Quality

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Ecological description of the lands under appeal**

**Site A**

The entire site consisted of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

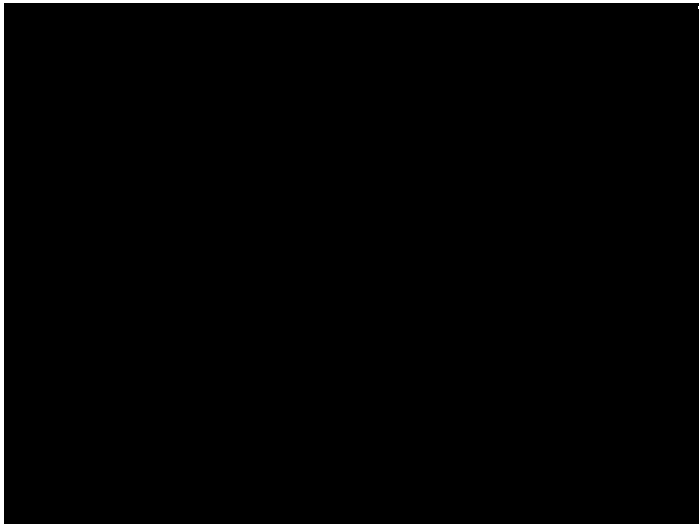


Photo 1: [REDACTED]

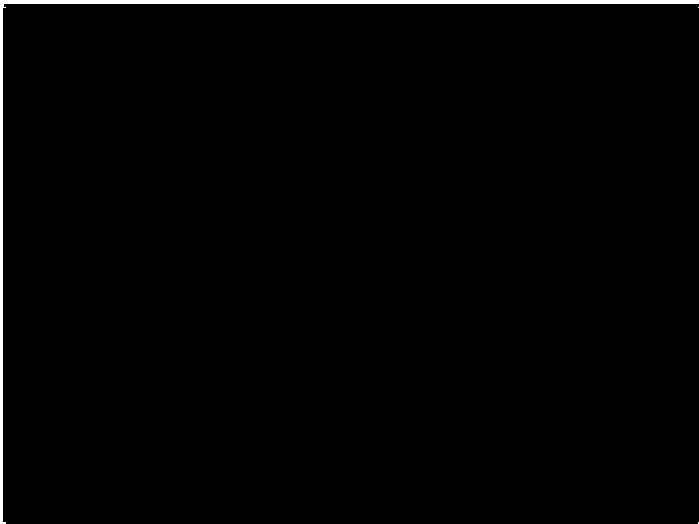


Photo 2: [Redacted]

**Site B**

The [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted] s.

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

T [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]



Photo 3: V [redacted]

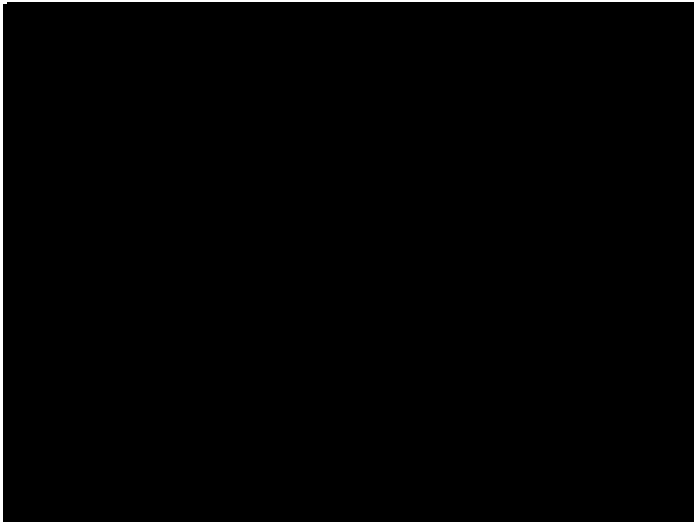


Photo 4: [redacted]

Most of Sites A and B i [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] at the time of the site visit on the 20<sup>th</sup>  
of May 2008. O [redacted]  
[redacted] 0.595 metres above that level that  
was recorded there on the day of the site visit (i.e. 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008). [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] Although the site is  
relatively improved, the presence of plants like [redacted]  
[redacted] showed that  
the area is often subject to wet conditions.

T [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

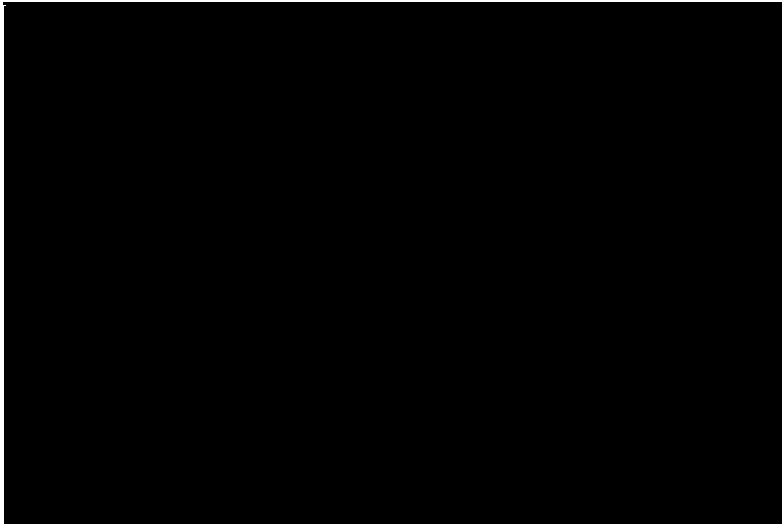


Photo 5: [redacted] the photo was taken (12.01.2005).

Several sources of information, including the topography of the sites and the surrounding area, vegetation observed at the sites, the nature of the vegetation growing at the sites and OPW flood data, indicate that the area is regularly flooded to some extent by the River Clare. Accordingly, it can be said that the sites form part of the functional floodplain of the River Clare.

### Site C

[redacted]

[redacted] This habitat corresponds to the priority habitat **Limestone Pavement (Natura 2000 Code 8240)**, which is one of the Qualifying Interests of the Lough Corrib SAC.

When the site was visited on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2008, [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted], might have been recorded had the site been visited later in the spring and summer. It is possible, but not certain, therefore, that the grassland at the site could correspond to the EU Habitats Directive Annex I priority habitat **Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometea) (\*important orchid sites) (Natura 2000 Code 6210)**, which is a Qualifying Interest for the SAC. [redacted]  
[redacted].

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Appendix 6). [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

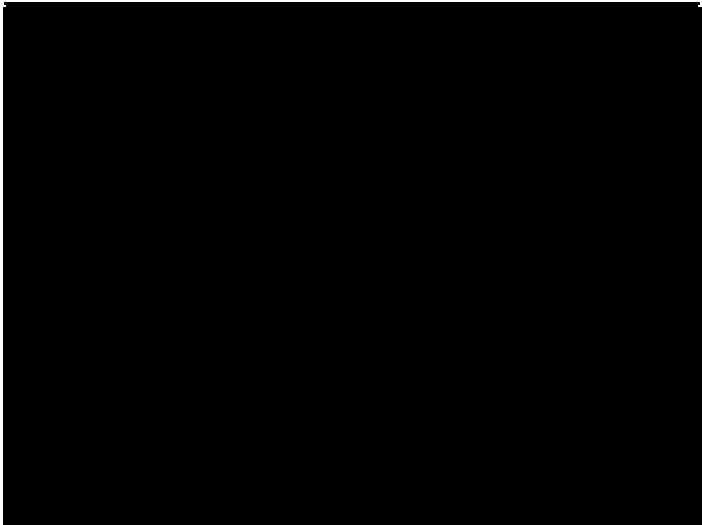


Photo 6:

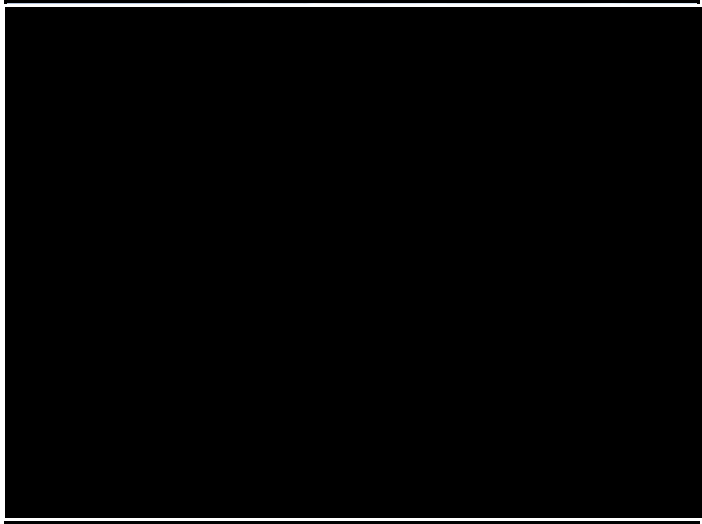


Photo 7:

[Redacted]



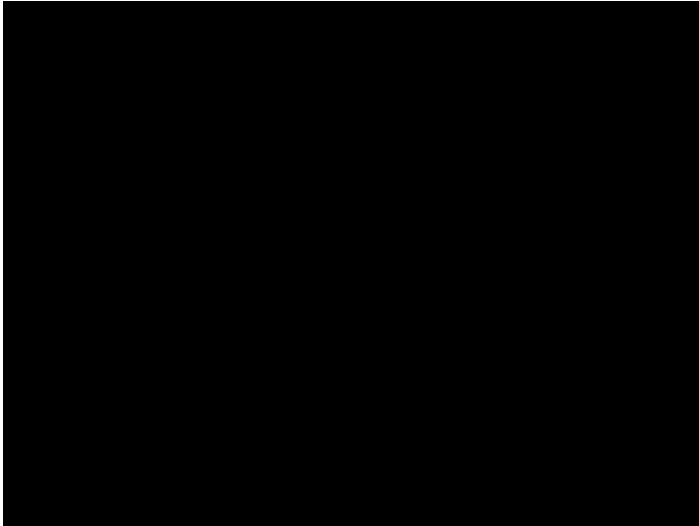


Photo 8:

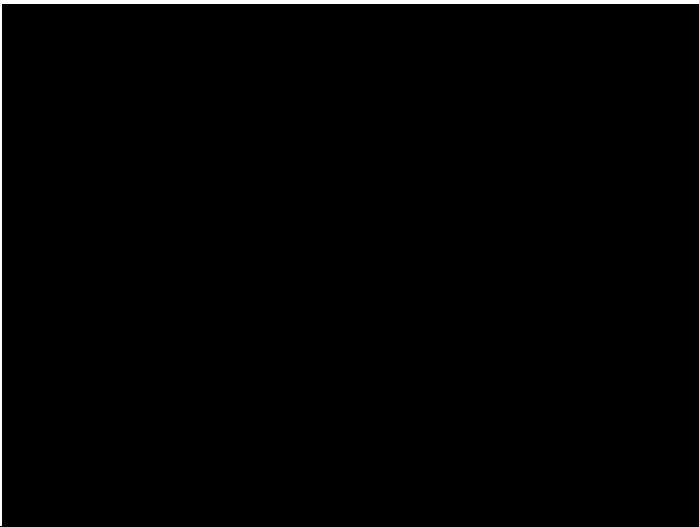


Photo 9:





Photo 10: [redacted] (20.05.2008).

**Condition of the EU Habitat**

Site C [redacted] designated as part of the Lough Corrib cSAC. The EU Habitats Directive Annex I priority habitat **Limestone pavement** is present at the site as exposed pavement, under scrub and in mosaic with limestone grassland. These habitats were judged to be in good conservation condition at the time of the site visit.

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] Current threats to such areas include quarrying and construction (possibly infrastructural or residential).

**Appendix 8**

Vascular plant and bryophyte species list for Sites A - C

Scientific Name	Common Name				
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Scientific Name	Common Name			
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## Appendix 9: Birds and mammals recorded at Sites A – C

Bird species list for Sites A - C

Common Name	Scientific Name	Site A	Site B	Site C
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>

Two Irish Hare (*Lepus timidus hibernicus*) were recorded at Site C.