



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 9 January 2017

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Outer Ards



Designation date	6 April 2005
Site number	2279
Coordinates	54°32'26"N 05°31'07"W
Area	1 154,00 ha

Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

1 - Summary

Summary

The Outer Ards site mainly encompasses intertidal areas, but with some additional adjoining areas of notable habitat. It includes sand- and mud-dominated shores, cobble and boulder beaches together with rocky shores. Offshore islands are also present. Adjoining habitat includes areas of dune and maritime grassland, maritime heath and cliff ledge vegetation, saltmarsh, tidal and non-tidal fens and wet flushes. Some areas still display the natural transition from maritime to terrestrial vegetation where a number of notable communities occur. At least 17 rare or local plant species have been recorded across the range of habitats within the area.

The Outer Ards is especially important for the breeding colony of Arctic tern *Sterna paradisaea*, together with the wintering populations of light-bellied brent goose *Branta bernicla hrota*, European golden plover *Pluvialis apricaria*, ruddy turnstone *Arenaria interpres* and ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula*. Nationally important populations of 11 other species of bird have also been recorded within the Outer Ards site. The site contains about 8% of the Northern Irish coastline and has a very high proportion of offshore reefs and islands.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Institution/agency	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Postal address	Monkstone House City Road Peterborough Cambridgeshire PE1 1JY UK
E-mail	ris@jncc.gov.uk
Phone	+44 01733 562 626
Fax	+44 01733 555 948

2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

To year

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Boundaries description (optional)

The site boundary follows that of the Special Protection Area (SPA) classified under the EU's Birds Directive. The Outer Ards site is situated along part of the eastern shores of County Down, Northern Ireland and extends from Grey Point on the north Down coast to Ballyquintin Point in the south. The largest nearby settlement is Bangor, population approx. 56,000 which is situated on the north coast of Co. Down, and is adjacent to the Ramsar site at this location. The site crosses the local council areas of North Down, and Ards.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes No

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes No

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

RIS for Site no. 2279, Outer Ards, United Kingdom

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Atlantic

3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

<no data available>

<no data available>

<no data available>

Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
<i>Atriplex laciniata</i> 	Frosted orache	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Atriplex littoralis</i> 	Grass-leaved orache	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i> 	Slender thistle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i> 	Rock samphire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i> 	Dodder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Eleocharis uniglumis</i> 	Slender spike-rush	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Juncus subnodulosus</i> 	bluntflower rush	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Limonium humile</i> 	Lax-flowered sea-lavender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Microglossum olivaceum</i> 	Olive-coloured earth tongue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Parapholis strigosa</i> 	Hardgrass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum landra</i> 	Sea radish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Sagina maritima</i> 	Sea pearlwort	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Trifolium striatum</i> 	Starry Clover; Knotted Clover; Striate Clover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Zostera angustifolia</i> 	Narrow-leaved eelgrass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare
<i>Zostera marina</i> 	Eelgrass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Nationally rare

Some of the coastal grasslands, such as Cloghy, are important for grassland fungi, such as white waxcap *Hygrocybe virginea*.

3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
Birds																		
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Arenaria interpres interpres</i>	Ruddy turnstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1210	1991-1996	1.7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		5-year peak mean 1991/92 – 1995/96, wintering site
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>	Light-bellied brent goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	209	1991-1996	1.1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		5-year peak mean 1991/92 – 1995/96, East Canada/Ireland, wintering site
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Dunlin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		international/national importance
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Purple Sandpiper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		international/national importance
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Common Ringed Plover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	516	1991-1996	1.2	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		5-year peak mean 1991/92 – 1995/96, Europe/Northwest Africa, wintering site
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		international/national importance
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Numerius arquata</i>	Eurasian Curlew	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		international/national importance
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Great Cormorant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		international/national importance
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	European golden plover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2109	1991-1996	1.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		5-year peak mean 1991/92 – 1995/96, P. a. altifrons Iceland & Faroes/E Atlantic, 1.1% of the all-Ireland population, wintering site
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Great Crested Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		international/national importance
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Common Eider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		international/national importance
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Arctic Tern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		very important for the breeding colony
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Common Redshank	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		international/national importance
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Northern Lapwing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		international/national importance
Others																		
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	Gray Seal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		haul-outs, pupping and mating sites
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Harbor Seal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		haul-outs, pupping and mating sites

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

4.1 - Ecological character

The maritime vegetation along this exposed coastline has been strongly influenced both by the physiography and by human activity. Most of the terrestrial semi-natural vegetation is now confined to a narrow, fragmented shoreline strip and includes areas of dune and maritime grassland, maritime heath and cliff ledge vegetation. Some areas still display the natural transition from maritime to terrestrial vegetation, most typically in sheltered bays, where saltmarshes give way either through brackish fen to freshwater fen, or through inundation grassland to wet flushes and maritime grassland. Incorporated within these transitions are a number of notable vegetation communities, including those characterised by sea-purslane *Atriplex portulacoides* and by saltmarsh flat-sedge *Blysmus rufus*. On the rocky shores the sequence is more abrupt, with cliff ledge vegetation giving way to maritime grassland and in a few locations, maritime heath. The maritime cliff community characterised by spring squill *Scilla verna* is particularly notable. At least seventeen rare or local plant species have been recorded for the area. These include wetland plants from intertidal muds, saltmarshes and freshwater marshes. Some of the coastal grasslands, such as Cloghy, are important for grassland fungi. Sedimentary shores in Outer Ards are among the best examples of their types in Northern Ireland, with their characteristic species, such as lugworm *Arenicola marina*, common cockle *Cerastoderma edule*, and sand mason *Lanice conchilega*, depending on exposure and sand texture. Several rocky shores display classic shore zonation with boulders and associated communities. Acom barnacles *Semibalanus balanoides* and brown seaweeds, such as channelled wrack *Pelvetia canaliculata*, spiral wrack *Fucus spiralis* and oarweed *Laminaria digitata* occur on the rocks and boulders, whilst the rockpools host green algae such as *Enteromorpha* spp. and *Cladophora* spp. There are significant populations of both grey seal *Halichoerus grypus* and common seal *Phoca vitulina* using the offshore islands and reefs as haul-outs, pupping and mating sites. These islands are very important for the colony of breeding Arctic tern *Sterna paradisaea*. The range of shoreline habitats along the Outer Ards coast supports a wide variety of bird species of both international and national importance, such as light bellied brent goose *Branta bernicla hrota*, ruddy turnstone *Arenaria interpres*, ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, European golden plover *Pluvialis apricaria*, great cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*, great crested grebe *Podiceps cristatus*, common eider *Somateria mollissima*, Eurasian curlew *Numenius arquata*, dunlin *Calidris alpina*, northern lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*, Eurasian oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*, purple sandpiper *Calidris maritima* and common redshank *Tringa totanus*.

4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

Marine or coastal wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
A: Permanent shallow marine waters		2		
D: Rocky marine shores		1		
E: Sand, shingle or pebble shores		1		
H: Intertidal marshes		3		

Other non-wetland habitat

Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
dune and maritime grassland	
Maritime heath	
Cliff-ledge vegetation	

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	Sea-purslane	
<i>Blysmus rufus</i>	Saltmarsh flat-sedge	
<i>Clavulinopsis corniculata</i>	Cow-horn coral-fungus	
<i>Geoglossum atropurpureum</i>	Purple-brown earth tongue	
<i>Hygrocybe russocoriacea</i>	Russian-leather waxcap	
<i>Scilla verna</i>	Spring squill	

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	% occurrence	Position in range / endemism/other
ANNELIDA/POLYCHAETA	<i>Arenicola marina</i>	blow lugworm;lugworm				
MOLLUSCA/BIVALVIA	<i>Cerastoderma edule</i>	edible cockle				
ANNELIDA/POLYCHAETA	<i>Lanice conchilega</i>	sand mason;sand mason worm				
ARTHROPODA/MAXILLOPODA	<i>Semibalanus balanoides</i>	Acom barnacles				

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
C: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with mild winters	Cfb: Marine west coast (Mild with no dry season, warm summer)

Annual averages (Aldergrove, 1971–2000)
 Max. daily temperature: 12.5° C
 Min. daily temperature: 5.8° C
 Days of air frost: 39.1
 Rainfall: 862.4 mm
 Hrs. of sunshine: 1313.7

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

- Entire river basin
- Upper part of river basin
- Middle part of river basin
- Lower part of river basin
- More than one river basin
- Not in river basin
- Coastal

Please name the river basin or basins. If the site lies in a sub-basin, please also name the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.

Irish Sea

4.4.3 - Soil

- Mineral
- Organic
- No available information

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)? Yes No

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

acidic, basic, neutral, shingle, sand, mud, clay, nutrient-poor, sedimentary, sandstone, igneous, slate/shale, gravel, pebble, cobble, boulder
 Dominated by mineral gleys and brown earths

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?
Usually permanent water present

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

- Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site
- Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site
- Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site
- Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually
- Sediment regime unknown

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

The Outer Ards Peninsula is the most sheltered stretch of open rocky coast in Northern Ireland. The width of this rocky intertidal zone is determined by the orientation of outcrop but generally comprises low platforms, up to 200 m across, separated by wide areas of mobile sediments. subtidal sediments (including sandbank/mudbank), intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat)

4.4.6 - Water pH

- Acid (pH<5.5)
- Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)
- Alkaline (pH>7.4)
- Unknown

4.4.7 - Water salinity

- Fresh (<0.5 g/l)
- Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l)
- Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l)
- Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l)
- Unknown

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

- Eutrophic
- Mesotrophic

Oligotrophic

Dystrophic

Unknown

4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the site itself: i) broadly similar ii) significantly different

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development

Surrounding area has higher human population density

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use

Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Wetland non-food products	Livestock fodder	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Pollution control and detoxification	Water purification/waste treatment or dilution	Medium
Hazard reduction	Coastal shoreline and river bank stabilization and storm protection	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium
Spiritual and inspirational	Aesthetic and sense of place values	Medium
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	Medium
Spiritual and inspirational	Spiritual and religious values	Medium
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	Medium
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	Medium
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	Medium

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

Nature conservation, Gathering of shellfish, Bait collection, Harbour/port, Social and cultural: livestock grazing, transportation/navigation
 Most of the sandy bays attract tourists (sometimes in large numbers) for day trips and seaside holidays during spring and summer – numbers across entire site are likely to exceed 500,000, based on day trips per year. Main activities are based around recreation on beaches within the site. In some places these activities are organised and advertised. At the northern end of the site, a coastal path has been developed to manage numbers and access. Tourist visits peak during summer months, but the site is used year-round for recreation.

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes No Unknown

4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

i) the site provides a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland

ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples

iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
National/Federal government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public land (unspecified)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Foundation/non-governmental organization/trust	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Department of the Environment

Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:

Ian Enlander

Postal address:

Klondyke Building
Cromac Avenue
Gasworks Business Park
Lower Ormeau Road
Belfast
BT7 2JA
Tel: 028 90569647

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

<no data available>

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Special Protection Area (SPA)		whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Area of Outstanding National Beauty (AONB)			whole
National Nature Reserve (NNR)			whole
Site/ Area of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI/ASSI)			whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

Ia Strict Nature Reserve

Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection

II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation

III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features

IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention

V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation

VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

<no data available>

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

<no data available>

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? No

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes No

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning processes with another Contracting Party? Yes No

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

The management of Ramsar sites in the UK is determined by either a formal management plan or through other management planning processes, and is overseen by the relevant statutory conservation agency. Details of the precise management practises are given in these documents.

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? Please select a value

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented

EHS staff monitor the site on a regular basis and conduct bird counts through the winter and spring seasons.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

ASSI Survey – Habitat Survey Team, Environment and Heritage Service
Barne, JH, Robson, CF, Kaznowska, SS, Doody, JP, Davidson, NC & Buck, AL (eds.) (1997) Coasts and seas of the United Kingdom. Region 17. Northern Ireland. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough. (Coastal Directories Series.)
Cooper, EA, Crawford, I, Malloch, AJC & Rodwell, JS (1992) Coastal vegetation survey of Northern Ireland. (Contractor: University of Lancaster, Unit of Vegetation Science). Unpublished report to Department of the Environment (Northern Ireland), Belfast
Crowe, O (2005) Ireland's wetlands and their waterbirds: status and distribution. BirdWatch Ireland, Newcastle, Co. Wicklow
Curtis, TGF & McGough, HN (1988) The Irish Red Data Book. 1 Vascular plants. Stationery Office, Dublin
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6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

<no file available>

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

<no file available>

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

<no data available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Caption (Copyright holder, 20-12-2016)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2005-04-06