

Name: Ardee Cutaway Bog NHA

Site Code: 95

County: Louth

Grid Ref: 293445 291425

Area (ha): 39.11

Townland: Townparks (ED Adree Rural)



Photograph 1. Ardee Cutaway Bog, County Louth showing the wet heathland vegetation and hollows where wetter regenerating bog communities occur.

Site designation(s):

pNHA

Surveyed by:

P. Foss

Date of wetland survey:

22/08/2011

Conservation ranking after survey:

B Rating: Nationally Important

Site source information:

Detailed Wetland Survey undertaken 2011

Site previously mapped in GIS dataset

Site previously reported from literature

Site Location

Ardee bog is located 2.5 km due west of Ardee town.

Site Description and Wetland Habitats Recorded

The site consists of a complex of cutover bog, with wet heathland vegetation and hollows where wetter regenerating bog communities occur. Other sections are dominated by scrub, wet heathland and bog woodland with Birch and Alder.

Target Notes Description

N1: Damage - area of bog partly infilled and reclaimed as football pitch with club house.

N2: Habitat - area of mature bog woodland with Birch. Sparse understorey of Bracken, Bramble and ferns. Trees 10-15 m tall.

N3: Habitat - Cutover bog with Calluna/Molinia heathland. A number of large cut out pools/hollows occur with rich Sphagnum flora, and Carex rostrata poor fen. Cranberry (Vaccinium oxycoccus) occurs in some of the hollows.

N6: Species/Survey - Pool areas with numerous dragonfly & damselfly species. Survey of these species recommended. Don Cotton has been recording moth occurrence on site (see Moths Ireland Website).

N5: Habitat - Scrub/bog woodland area with Birch and Willow.

N4: Habitat - Cutover bog with Gorse scrub and heathy grassland areas. Appears to be abandoned rough grazing area. Carex demissa, C. panicea, C. flacca, Succisa and Molinia abundant.

Management Recommendations following survey

It is recommended that a management plan be developed for this site, which should include wetland restoration and enhancement measures.

Future Survey Recommendations

Pool areas with numerous dragonfly & damselfly species. Survey of these species recommended. An updated NHA survey by NPWS of the site is also recommended.

Landowner Information Comments

NA

Description of potential EU Habitats Directive Annex 1 habitats

Some of the hollows in the cutover bog occurring on site may correspond to Annex I habitat 'Depressions on the peat substrate of the Rhynchosporion (7150)'.

Main Fossitt habitats on site

P Peatlands
 PB Bogs
 PB4 Cutover bog
 W Woodland and scrub
 WN7 Bog woodland
 WN Semi-natural woodland
 WS Scrub/transitional woodland
 WS1 Scrub
 H Heath and dense bracken
 HD Dense Bracken
 HD1 Dense bracken
 HH Heath
 HH3 Wet heath
 B Cultivated & built land
 BL Built land
 BL3 Buildings and artificial surfaces
 F Freshwater
 FL Lakes & Ponds
 FL1 Dystrophic lakes
 FW Watercourses
 FW4 Drainage ditches
 PF Fens & Flushes
 PF2 Poor fen and flush
 PF3 Transition mire & quaking bog
 WL Linear woodland/scrub
 WL1 Hedgerows
 HH1 Dry siliceous heath

EU Habitats Directive habitats on site

(7150) Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynch...

Adjacent habitats surrounding site

G Grassland & Marsh
 GA Improved Grassland
 GA1 Improved agricultural grassland
 B Cultivated & built land
 BL Built land
 BL3 Buildings and artificial surfaces
 GS Semi-Natural Grassland
 GS4 Wet grassland
 GA2 Amenity grassland (improved)
 W Woodland and scrub
 WL Linear woodland/scrub
 WL1 Hedgerows
 WL2 Treelines
 WS Scrub/transitional woodland
 WS1 Scrub
 P Peatlands
 PB Bogs
 PB4 Cutover bog
 BC Cultivated land
 BC1 Arable crops
 F Freshwater
 FW Watercourses
 FW4 Drainage ditches

Site Damaging Operations

Drainage
 Dumping - Rubbish
 Dumping - Green waste
 Infill - Rubble/Soil
 Reclamation
 Peat Cutting - historical
 Peat Cutting - active

Severity of Damage

3 - Very Serious

Flora on site

Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)
Alnus glutinosa (Alder)
Angelica sylvestris (Wild Angelica)
Anthoxanthum odoratum (Sweet Vernal-grass)
Arrhenatherum elatius (False Oat-grass)
Betula pubescens (Downy Birch)
Calliergonella cuspidata (Pointed Spear Moss)
Calluna vulgaris (Ling Heather)
Calystegia sepium (Hedge Bindweed)
Carex echinata (Star Sedge)
Carex flacca (Glaucous Sedge)
Carex lepidocarpa (Long-stalked Yellow-sedge)
Carex panicea (Carnation Sedge)
Carex rostrata (Bottle Sedge)
Carex sp. (Sedge)
Centaurea nigra (Common Knapweed)
Cirsium palustre (Marsh Thistle)
Cladonia portentosa (Branching Lichen)
Comarum palustre (Marsh Cinquefoil)
Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)
Drosera rotundifolia (Round-leaved Sundew)
Dryopteris filix-mas (Male-fern)
Erica tetralix (Cross-leaved Heath)
Eriophorum angustifolium (Common Cottongrass)
Eriophorum vaginatum (Hare's-tail Cottongrass)
Filipendula ulmaria (Meadowsweet)
Fraxinus excelsior (Ash)
Hedera helix (Ivy)
Holcus lanatus (Yorkshire-fog)
Hypnum jutlandicum (Moss)
Iris pseudacorus (Yellow Iris)
Juncus articulatus (Jointed Rush)
Juncus bulbosus (Bulbous Rush)
Juncus effusus (Soft-rush)
Luzula multiflora (Heath Wood-rush)
Menyanthes trifoliata (Bogbean)
Molinia caerulea (Purple Moor-grass)
Narthecium ossifragum (Bog Asphodel)
Osmunda regalis (Royal Fern)
Pedicularis sylvatica (Lousewort)
Potentilla erecta (Tormentil)
Pteridium aquilinum (Bracken)
Rhynchospora alba (White Beak-sedge)
Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus ()
Rubus fruticosus agg. (Blackberry)
Rumex acetosa (Common Sorrel)
Rumex sanguineus (Wood dock)
Salix aurita (Eared Willow)
Salix cinerea subsp. *oleifolia* (Rusty Willow)
Salix repens (Creeping Willow)
Sambucus nigra (Elder)
Sphagnum capillifolium (Acute-leaved Bog Moss)
Sphagnum cuspidatum (Feathery Bog Moss)

Fauna on site

Wood Pigeon
 Frog
 Banded Damoiselle (*Calopteryx splendens*)
 Other Dragonflies & Damselflies
 Azure Hawker (*Aeshna caerulea*)

Sphagnum fallax (Flat-topped Bog Moss)
Sphagnum palustre (Blunt-leaved Bog Moss)
Sphagnum papillosum (Papillose Bog Moss)
Succisa pratensis (Devil's-bit Scabious)
Trichophorum cespitosum (Deergrass)
Ulex europaeus (Gorse)
Urtica dioica (Common Nettle)
Vaccinium oxycoccos (Cranberry)
Vicia cracca (Tufted Vetch)

Aerial Photograph showing location of the site

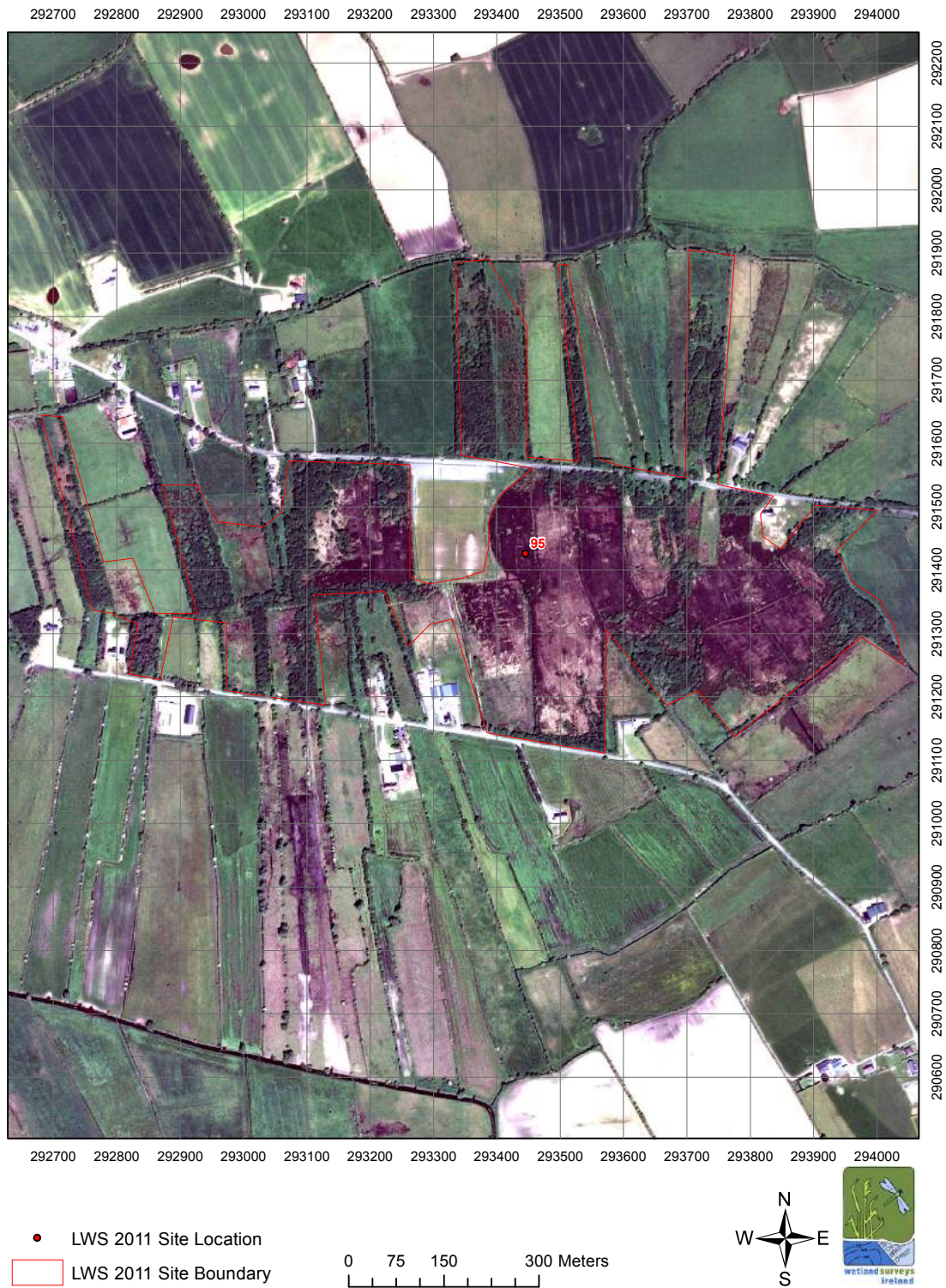


Figure 1. Aerial photograph showing the appearance and location of Ardee Cutaway Bog NHA (site number 95) shown by the red outline. Each grid square shown in the aerial photograph is 100 m square.

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GIS Habitat map of the site



Figure 2. Habitat map of Ardee Cutaway Bog NHA (site number 95). Key to habitat symbols is presented in the main report.

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