

National Parks and Wildlife Service

Conservation Objectives Series

Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC 000634



An Roinn Cultúir,
Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta
Department of Culture,
Heritage and the Gaeltacht

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Citation:

**NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives: Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC 000634.
Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage
and the Gaeltacht.**

**Series Editor: Rebecca Jeffrey
ISSN 2009-4086**

Introduction

The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation status of habitats and species of community interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives and Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas are designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as the Natura 2000 network.

European and national legislation places a collective obligation on Ireland and its citizens to maintain habitats and species in the Natura 2000 network at favourable conservation condition. The Government and its agencies are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of regulations that will ensure the ecological integrity of these sites.

A site-specific conservation objective aims to define favourable conservation condition for a particular habitat or species at that site.

The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when:

- its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing, and
- the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and
- the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when:

- population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats, and
- the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and
- there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

Notes/Guidelines:

1. The targets given in these conservation objectives are based on best available information at the time of writing. As more information becomes available, targets for attributes may change. These will be updated periodically, as necessary.
2. An appropriate assessment based on these conservation objectives will remain valid even if the targets are subsequently updated, providing they were the most recent objectives available when the assessment was carried out. It is essential that the date and version are included when objectives are cited.
3. Assessments cannot consider an attribute in isolation from the others listed for that habitat or species, or for other habitats and species listed for that site. A plan or project with an apparently small impact on one attribute may have a significant impact on another.
4. Please note that the maps included in this document do not necessarily show the entire extent of the habitats and species for which the site is listed. This should be borne in mind when appropriate assessments are being carried out.
5. When using these objectives, it is essential that the relevant backing/supporting documents are consulted, particularly where instructed in the targets or notes for a particular attribute.

Qualifying Interests

** indicates a priority habitat under the Habitats Directive*

000634 Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC

7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog)

Supporting documents, relevant reports & publications

Supporting documents, NPWS reports and publications are available for download from: www.npws.ie/Publications

NPWS Documents

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Year : | 1989 |
| Title : | A survey to locate blanket bogs of scientific interest in County Kerry and County Sligo |
| Author : | Douglas, C.; Garvey, L.; Kelly, L.; O'Sullivan, A. |
| Series : | Unpublished report to NPWS |
| Year : | 2005 |
| Title : | Conservation Plan for 2005-2010. Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog cSAC Site Code 000634 Co. Sligo |
| Author : | NPWS |
| Series : | Conservation Plan |
| Year : | 2010 |
| Title : | Ireland Red List No. 4: Butterflies |
| Author : | Regan, E.C.; Nelson, B.; Aldwell, B.; Bertrand, C.; Bond, K.; Harding, J.; Nash, D.; Nixon, D.; Wilson, C.J. |
| Series : | Ireland Red List series, NPWS |
| Year : | 2011 |
| Title : | Ireland Red List No. 6: Damselflies and Dragonflies (Odonata) |
| Author : | Nelson, B.; Ronayne, C.; Thompson, R. |
| Series : | Ireland Red Lists series, NPWS |
| Year : | 2012 |
| Title : | Ireland Red List No. 8: Bryophytes |
| Author : | Lockhart, N.; Hodgetts, N.; Holyoak, D. |
| Series : | Ireland Red List series, NPWS |
| Year : | 2014 |
| Title : | Guidelines for a national survey and conservation assessment of upland vegetation and habitats in Ireland, Version 2.0 |
| Author : | Perrin, P.M.; Barron, S.J.; Roche, J.R.; O'Hanrahan, B. |
| Series : | Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 79 |
| Year : | 2016 |
| Title : | Ireland Red List No. 10: Vascular Plants |
| Author : | Wyse Jackson, M.; FitzPatrick, Ú.; Cole, E.; Jebb, M.; McFerran, D.; Sheehy Skeffington, M.; Wright, M. |
| Series : | Ireland Red List Series, NPWS |
| Year : | 2019 |
| Title : | Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC (000634) Conservation objectives supporting document-blanket bog and supporting habitats V1 |
| Author : | NPWS |
| Series : | Conservation objectives supporting document |

Conservation Objectives for : Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC [000634]

7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog)

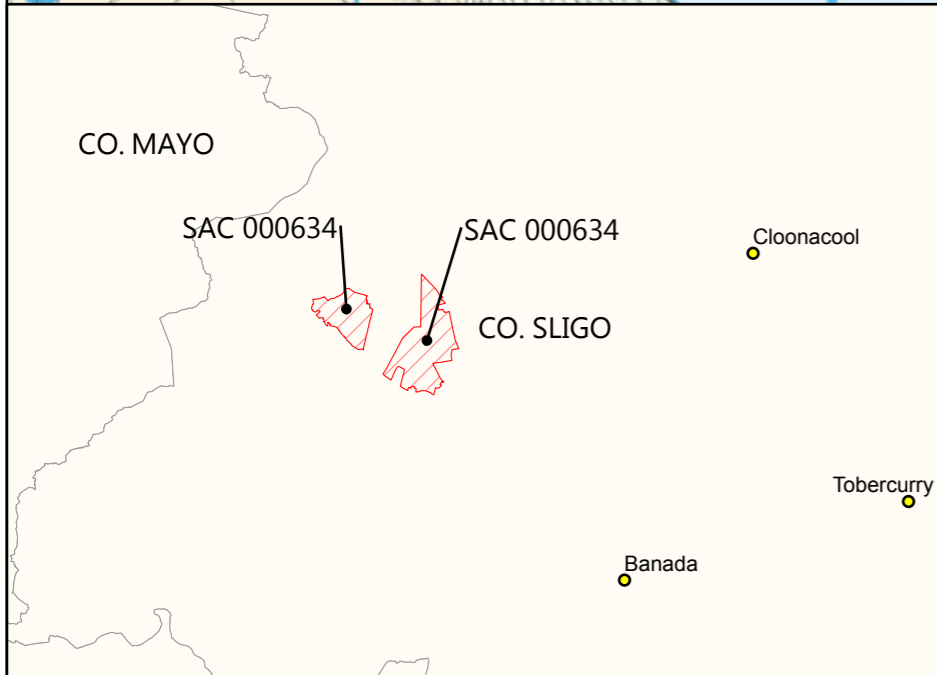
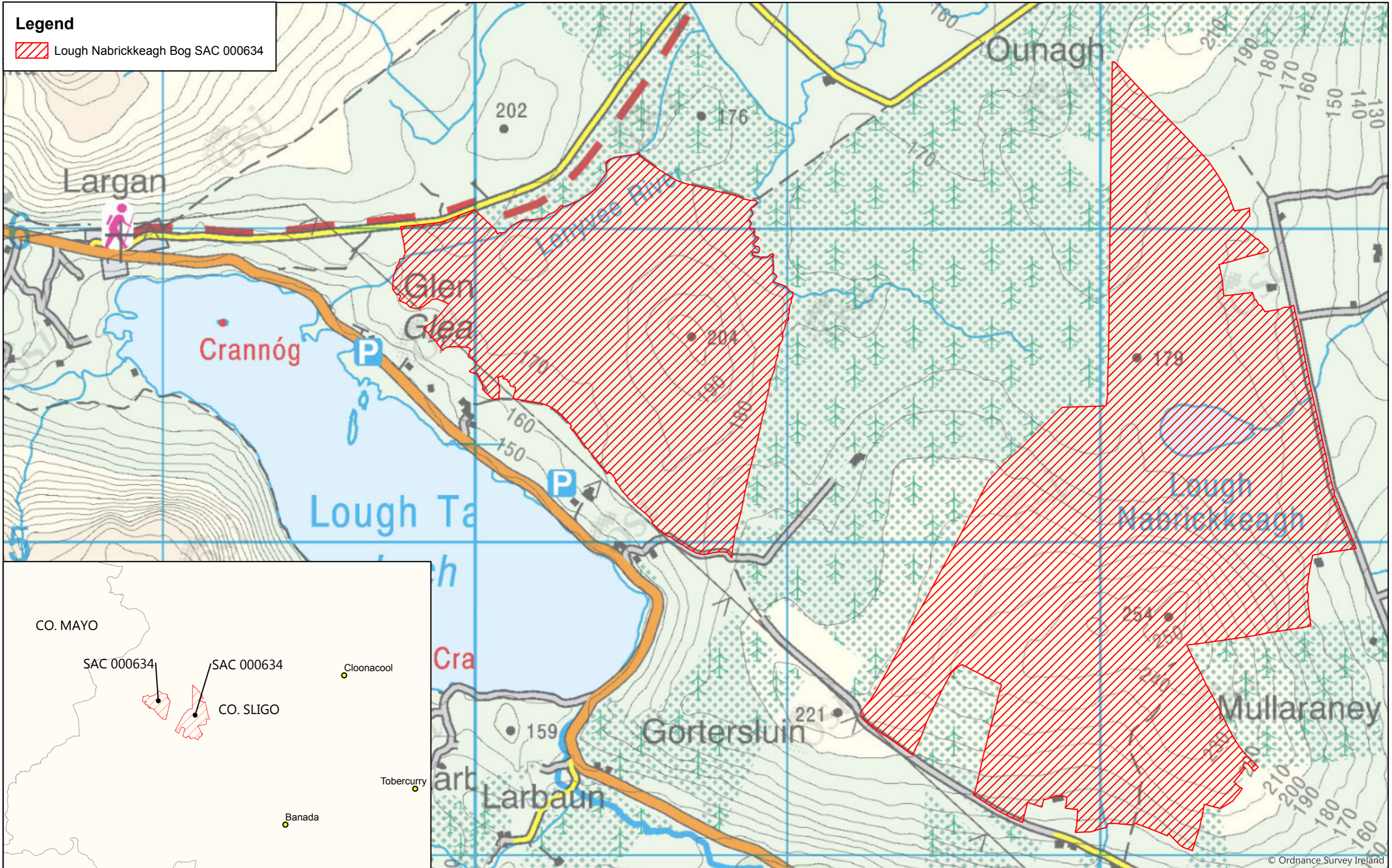
To restore the favourable conservation condition of Blanket bogs (* if active bog) in Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

| Attribute | Measure | Target | Notes |
|--|--|--|---|
| Habitat area | Hectares | Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes | Blanket bog has not been mapped in detail for Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC, but from current available data the total area of the qualifying habitat is estimated to be approximately 193ha, covering 71% of the SAC (NPWS internal files). Further details on this and the following attributes can be found in the Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC conservation objectives supporting document for blanket bogs and associated habitats |
| Habitat distribution | Occurrence | No decline, subject to natural processes | The habitat is documented to occur throughout the SAC (Douglas et al., 1989; NPWS, 2005). Further information can be found within Douglas et al. (1989), NPWS (2005) and the blanket bogs and associated habitats supporting document |
| Ecosystem function: soil nutrients | Soil pH and appropriate nutrient levels at a representative number of monitoring stops | Maintain soil pH and nutrient status within natural ranges | See the blanket bogs and associated habitats supporting document for further details |
| Ecosystem function: peat formation | Active blanket bog as a proportion of the total area of Annex I blanket bog habitat | At least 99% of the total Annex I blanket bog area is active | See the blanket bogs and associated habitats supporting document for further details |
| Ecosystem function: hydrology | Flow direction, water levels, occurrence of drains and erosion gullies | Natural hydrology unaffected by drains and erosion | Further details and a brief discussion of restoration potential is presented in the blanket bogs and associated habitats supporting document |
| Community diversity | Abundance of variety of vegetation communities | Maintain variety of vegetation communities, subject to natural processes | A variety of blanket bog vegetation communities have been recorded in this SAC (Douglas et al., 1989; NPWS internal files), three of which correspond to communities recorded in the National Survey of Upland Habitats and listed in the provisional list of vegetation communities described in Perrin et al. (2014). Further information on vegetation communities associated with this habitat is presented in Perrin et al. (2014) |
| Vegetation composition: positive indicator species | Number of species at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops | Number of positive indicator species present at each monitoring stop is at least seven | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014), where the list of positive indicator species for this habitat is also presented |
| Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes | Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops | Cover of bryophytes or lichens, excluding <i>Sphagnum fallax</i> , at least 10% | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014) |
| Vegetation composition: negative indicator species | Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops | Total cover of negative indicator species less than 1% | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014), where the list of negative indicator species for this habitat is also presented |
| Vegetation composition: non-native species | Percentage cover at, and in local vicinity of, a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops | Cover of non-native species less than 1% | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014) |
| Vegetation composition: native trees and shrubs | Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops | Cover of scattered native trees and shrubs less than 10% | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014) |
| Vegetation composition: potential dominant species | Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops | Cover of each of the potential dominant species less than 75% | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the blanket bogs and associated habitats supporting document for the list of potential dominant species |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Vegetation structure: signs of browsing | Percentage of shoots browsed at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops | Last complete growing season's shoots of ericoids, crowberry (<i>Empetrum nigrum</i>) and bog-myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) showing signs of browsing collectively less than 33% | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014) |
| Vegetation structure: burning | Occurrence in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops | No signs of burning in sensitive areas, into the moss, liverwort or lichen layer or exposure of peat surface due to burning | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014), where the list of sensitive areas for this habitat is also presented |
| Vegetation structure: <i>Sphagnum</i> condition | Condition at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops | Less than 10% of the <i>Sphagnum</i> cover is crushed, broken and/or pulled up | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014) |
| Physical structure: disturbed bare ground | Percentage cover at, and in local vicinity of, a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops | Cover of disturbed bare ground less than 10% | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014) |
| Physical structure: drainage | Percentage area in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops | Area showing signs of drainage from heavy trampling, tracking or ditches less than 10% | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014) |
| Physical structure: erosion | Percentage area in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops | Less than 5% of the greater bog mosaic comprises erosion gullies and eroded areas | Attribute and target based on Perrin et al. (2014) |
| Indicators of local distinctiveness | Occurrence and population size | No decline in distribution or population sizes of rare, threatened or scarce species associated with the habitat | This includes species on the Flora (Protection) Order, 2015 and/or Red Lists (Regan et al., 2010; Nelson et al., 2011; Lockhart et al., 2012; Wyse Jackson et al., 2016, etc.) |

Legend

 Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC 000634



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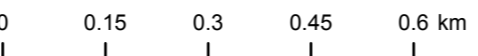


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MAP 1:
LOUGH NABRICKKEAGH BOG SAC
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES
SAC DESIGNATION

Map to be read in conjunction with the NPWS Conservation Objectives Document.

SITE CODE:
SAC 000634; version 3.02
CO. SLIGO



The mapped boundaries are of an indicative and general nature only. Boundaries of designated areas are subject to revision.
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Map Version 1
Date: Jan 2019