

River Basin Management Plan

Water Dependent Features of Natura 2000 sites (SACs & SPAs) in North Eastern River Basin District.

December 2009

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1 Introduction

The objective for Natura 2000 Protected Areas identified in relation to relevant areas designated under the Habitats Directive is to:

- Protect and, where necessary, improve the status of the water environment to the extent necessary to achieve the conservation objectives that have been established for the protection or improvement of the site's natural habitat types and species of Community importance in order to ensure the site contributes to the maintenance of, or restoration to, favourable conservation status i.e. to protect and, where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to maintain at or restore to favourable conservation status the water-dependent habitats and species for which the Protected Area is designated.

The objective for Natura 2000 Protected Areas identified in relation to relevant areas designated under the Birds Directive is to:

- Protect and where necessary improve the water environment to the extent necessary to achieve the conservation objectives that have been established for the protection or improvement of the site in order to ensure that the site contributes to the conservation (survival and reproduction in their area of distribution) of birds species listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive.

Where a Natura 2000 Protected Area forms part of a water body or where a water body lies within a Natura 2000 Protected Area, the Water Framework Directive status objectives apply in addition to the requirement to maintain at favourable conservation status or restore it to that status. Some water bodies that coincide with Natura 2000 Protected Areas have been designated as artificial or heavily modified; in these cases the aim to achieve good ecological potential applies in addition to the objective of favourable conservation status.

Where Natura 2000 Protected Areas are failing their conservation objectives, NIEA has identified the actions that need to be taken to achieve them. Actions necessary to avoid deterioration of the areas supporting designated habitats and species have also been identified.

These actions are part of a programme of work to achieve the objectives of the EC Habitats Directive and Birds Directive.

Where Natura 2000 Protected Areas coincide with water bodies, there is also the requirement to aim to achieve the status objectives for the relevant water bodies. The actions presented in Section 2 are specifically aimed at ensuring the continued maintenance of, or restoration to, favourable conservation status for the protected areas; they may also contribute to the water body objectives.

A table for each Natura 2000 Protected Area within the River Basin District (inc. Local Management Area (LMA)) is presented including details about the site, features, conservation status and proposed measures.

2 Special Areas of Conservation in the North Eastern RBD

2.1 RATHLIN ISLAND

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Glens inc.Rathlin. Two waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area Rathlin Island	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Favourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	1	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2015	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves; Annual vegetation of drift lines; Reefs; Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time; Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	Not applicable: Features in favourable condition			
Annual vegetation of drift lines				
Reefs				
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time				
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts				

2.2 NORTH ANTRIM COAST

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Bush. Two waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area North Antrim Coast	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	1	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2021	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes"); Annual vegetation of drift lines; Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>); Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts			

	Vertigo angustior			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")	Under-grazing	There are no specific measures for the water dependent features of this Special Area of Conservation as there are no water related adverse activities causing this condition assessment.		
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	Under-grazing Invasive species (including bracken or scrub)			
Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	Not applicable: Features in favourable condition			
Annual vegetation of drift lines				
Vertigo angustior				

2.3 BREEN WOOD

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Bush. One waterbody in this LMA is associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area Breen Wood	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Recovering	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	1	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2015	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Bog woodland			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Bog woodland	Over-grazing (including deer browsing)	There are no specific measures for the water dependent features of this Special Area of Conservation as there are no water related adverse activities causing this condition assessment.		

2.4 GARRY BOG

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Bush. Three waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area Garry Bog	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	2	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2021	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Active raised bogs			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Active raised bogs	Including drainage, dredging or alterations to the water table. Could be too much water or too little	Investigation ongoing	NIEA	Ongoing

2.5 TURMENNAN

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Strangford. One waterbody in this LMA is associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area Turmennan	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	1	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2021	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Transition mires and quaking bogs			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead	Measure

			Organisation	in place by
Transition mires and quaking bogs	Water quality (including silt, water pollution (direct or diffuse), run-off, nutrient enrichment, eutrophication etc) Invasive species (including bracken or scrub)	One Moss agreements with NIEA and one NICMS referral.	NIEA, DARD	Ongoing

2.6 HOLLYMOUNT

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Quoile. Two waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area Hollymount	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	2	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2021	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	Invasive species (including bracken or scrub)	There are no specific measures for the water dependent features of this Special Area of Conservation as there are no water related adverse activities causing this condition assessment.		

2.7 LECALÉ FENS

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Quoile, and Strangford. Three waterbodies in these LMAs are associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area Lecale Fens	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	3	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2021	
Overall objective for	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the			

Protected Area:	water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Alkaline fens			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Alkaline fens	Under-grazing	There are no specific measures for the water dependent features of this Special Area of Conservation as there are no water related adverse activities causing this condition assessment.		

2.8 STRANGFORD LOUGH

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Strangford, and Quoile. Twelve waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area STRANGFORD LOUGH SAC	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	11	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2021	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Coastal lagoons; Large shallow inlets and bays; Annual vegetation of drift lines Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>); Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Perennial vegetation of stony banks <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ; Reefs; <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	Invasive species (including bracken or scrub)	Spartina control programme management	NIEA & National Trust	Ongoing
Reefs				
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	Agricultural operations (e.g.	There are no specific measures for the water dependent features of this Special Area of Conservation as there		

	ploughing, fertiliser, pesticides)	are no water related adverse activities causing this condition assessment.
Coastal lagoons	Not applicable: Features in favourable condition	
Large shallow inlets and bays		
Annual vegetation of drift lines		
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide		
Phoca vitulina		

2.9 MURLOUGH

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: South Down. Ten waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area	Protected Area Designation	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified	
Murlough	SAC	Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	9	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2027	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea); Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes"); Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae); Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Phoca vitulina; Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea)	Invasive species (including bracken or scrub)	There are no specific measures for the water dependent features of this Special Area of Conservation as there are no water related adverse activities causing this condition assessment.		
Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")				
Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	Invasive species (including bracken or scrub)			
Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia	Not applicable: Features in favourable condition			
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide				
Phoca vitulina				
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time				

2.10 BALLYKILBEG

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Quoile. One waterbody in this LMA is associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area Ballykilbeg	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Favourable: Un-classified		
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	1		
		Date for achieving Good Status	2021		
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)				
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Marsh fritillary butterfly				
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration			
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by	
Marsh fritillary butterfly	Not applicable: Feature in favourable condition				

2.11 AUGHNADARRAGH

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Quoile. Two waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area Aughnadarragh	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Favourable: Un-classified		
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	1		
		Date for achieving Good Status	2021		
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)				
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Marsh fritillary butterfly				
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration			
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by	
Marsh fritillary butterfly	Not applicable: Feature in favourable condition				

2.12 EASTERN MOURNES

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: South Down. Six waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SAC.

Name of Protected Area EASTERN MOURNES	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified		
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	4		
		Date for achieving Good Status	2027		
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)				
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Blanket bogs; Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix				
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration			
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by	
Blanket bogs Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	Over-grazing (including deer browsing)	There are no specific measures for the water dependent features of this Special Area of Conservation as there are no water related adverse activities causing this condition assessment.			

2.13 GARRON PLATEAU

LMAs which this SAC partially covers: Glens including Rathlin. Five waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SAC.

Please note this SAC lies within both the Neagh Bann and North Eastern River Basin Districts.

Name of Protected Area GARRON PLATEAU	Protected Area Designation SAC	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified		
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SAC	3		
		Date for achieving Good Status	2015		
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)				
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Blanket bogs; Saxifraga hirculus; Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters; Transition mires and quaking bogs.				
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration			
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by	
Blanket bogs Saxifraga hirculus Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica	Over-grazing (including deer browsing)	There are no specific measures for the water dependent features of this Special Area of Conservation as there are no water related adverse activities causing this condition assessment.			

tetralix		
Dystrophic lake	Not applicable: Features in favourable condition	
Alkaline fens		
Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters		
Transition mires and quaking bogs		

3 Special Protection Areas in the North Eastern RBD

3.1 BELFAST LOUGH SPA

LMAs which this SPA partially covers: Belfast Lough. Six waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SPA.

Name of Protected Area	Protected Area Designation	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified	
BELFAST LOUGH	SPA	Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SPA	6	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2027	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Redshank			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Redshank	Unfavourable: Un-classified	Unfavourable SPAs require investigation to identify external and internal factors. The issues are unclear; may be changes in migratory patterns, disturbance to high tide roost sites, water quality and/or ecological factors.		

3.2 BELFAST LOUGH OPEN WATER SPA

LMAs which this SPA partially covers: Belfast Lough and Lagan. 3 waterbodies in this LMA associated with this SPA.

Name of Protected Area	Protected Area Designation	Current overall conservation status of the site	Favourable: Un-classified	
BELFAST LOUGH OPEN WATER	SPA	Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SPA	3	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2027	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			

Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Great Crested Grebe (wintering)			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Great Crested Grebe (wintering)	Favourable: Un-classified	Not applicable: Feature in favourable condition		

3.3 KILLOUGH BAY SPA

LMAs which this SPA partially covers: South Down. Two waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SPA.

Name of Protected Area KILLOUGH BAY	Protected Area Designation SPA	Current overall conservation status of the site	Favourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SPA	1	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2015	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Light-bellied Brent Goose			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Light-bellied Brent Goose	Favourable: Un-classified	Not applicable: Feature in favourable condition		

3.4 LARNE LOUGH SPA

LMAs which this SPA partially covers: Larne Lough. Five waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SPA. Larne Lough also includes the subsumed SPA of Swan Island which was subject to separate classification.

Name of Protected Area LARNE LOUGH	Protected Area Designation SPA	Current overall conservation status of the site	Favourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SPA	3	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2015	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			

Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Common Tern, Roseate Tern, Sandwich Tern, Light-bellied Brent Goose			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Common Tern	Favourable: Un-classified	Not applicable: Features in favourable condition		
Roseate Tern	Favourable: Un-classified			
Sandwich Tern	Favourable: Un-classified			
Light-bellied Brent Goose	Favourable: Un-classified			

3.5 OUTER ARDS SPA

LMAs which this SPA partially covers: Strangford, and Belfast Lough. Six waterbodies in these LMAs are associated with this SPA.

Name of Protected Area OUTER ARDS	Protected Area Designation SPA	Current overall conservation status of the site	Favourable: Un-classified	
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SPA	5	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2027	
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Arctic Tern, Golden Plover, Light-bellied Brent Goose, Ringed Plover, Turnstone			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Arctic Tern	Favourable: Un-classified	Not applicable: Features in favourable condition		
Golden Plover	Favourable: Un-classified			
Light-bellied Brent Goose	Favourable: Un-classified			
Ringed Plover	Favourable: Un-classified			
Turnstone	Favourable: Un-classified			

3.6 RATHLIN ISLAND SPA

LMAs which this SPA partially covers: Glens inc.Rathlin. Two waterbodies in this LMA are associated with this SPA.

Name of Protected Area RATHLIN ISLAND	Protected Area Designation SPA	Current overall conservation status of the site	Favourable: Un-classified		
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SPA	1		
		Date for achieving Good Status	2015		
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)				
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Guillemot, Peregrine, Razorbill, Seabird assemblage				
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration			
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by	
Guillemot	Favourable: Un-classified	Not applicable: Features in favourable condition			
Peregrine	Favourable: Un-classified				
Razorbill	Favourable: Un-classified				
Seabird assemblage	Favourable: Un-classified				

3.7 STRANGFORD LOUGH SPA

LMAs which this SPA partially covers: Strangford, and Quoile. Fourteen waterbodies in these LMAs are associated with this SPA.

Name of Protected Area STRANGFORD LOUGH	Protected Area Designation SPA	Current overall conservation status of the site	Favourable: Un-classified		
		Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SPA	13		
		Date for achieving Good Status	2021		
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)				
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Bar-tailed Godwit, Golden Plover, Knot, Light-bellied Brent Goose, Redshank, Shelduck, Waterbird assemblage				
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration			
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead	Measure	

		Organisation	in place by
Bar-tailed Godwit	Favourable: Un-classified	Not applicable: Features in favourable condition	
Golden Plover	Favourable: Un-classified		
Knot	Favourable: Un-classified		
Light-bellied Brent Goose	Favourable: Un-classified		
Redshank	Favourable: Un-classified		
Shelduck	Favourable: Un-classified		
Waterbird assemblage	Favourable: Un-classified		

3.8 ANTRIM HILLS SPA

LMAs which this SPA partially covers: Glens inc. Rathlin, Bush, and Larne Lough. Seventeen waterbodies in these LMAs are associated with this SPA.

Name of Protected Area	Protected Area Designation	Current overall conservation status of the site	Not Assessed	
ANTRIM HILLS	SPA	Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SPA	8	
		Date for achieving Good Status	2027	
		Overall objective for Protected Area: Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)		
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Hen Harrier, Merlin			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Hen Harrier	Not Assessed			
Merlin	Not Assessed			

3.9 SHEEP ISLAND SPA

LMAs which this SPA partially covers: Bush. One waterbody in these LMAs are associated with this SPA.

Name of Protected Area	Protected Area Designation	Current overall conservation status of the site	Unfavourable: Un-classified	
SHEEP ISLAND	SPA	Number of waterbodies of less than good status related to this SPA	None	
		Date for achieving	Not applicable	

		Good Status		
Overall objective for Protected Area:	Favourable Conservation Status (To protect and where necessary, improve the water or water dependent environment to the extent necessary to achieve favourable conservation status for all the water dependent features for which the protected area is designated.)			
Water dependent habitats/species for designation:	Cormorant			
Reason for site not meeting objective		Measures proposed achieve favourable condition or prevent deterioration		
Feature	Reason	Measure	Lead Organisation	Measure in place by
Cormorant	Unfavourable: Un-classified	Unfavourable SPAs require investigation to identify external and internal factors. The issues are unclear; may be changes in migratory patterns, disturbance to high tide roost sites, water quality and/or ecological factors.		