

Site name: Bray Head SAC 000714
County: Wicklow

Site Specific Conservation Objective (SSCO) Ecological Attributes
[1230] Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts

- 1 Habitat length
- 2 Habitat distribution
- 3 Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime
- 4.1 Vegetation structure: zonation
- 4.2 Vegetation structure: vegetation height
- 5.1 Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities
- 5.2 Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
- 5.3 Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species

[4030] European dry heaths

- 1 Habitat area
- 2 Habitat distribution
- 3 Ecosystem function: soil nutrients
- 4 Community diversity
- 5.1 Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes
- 5.2 Vegetation composition: number of positive indicator species
- 5.3 Vegetation composition: cover of positive indicator species
- 5.4 Vegetation composition: dwarf shrub composition
- 5.5 Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
- 5.6 Vegetation composition: non-native species
- 5.7 Vegetation composition: native trees and shrubs
- 5.8 Vegetation composition: bracken
- 5.9 Vegetation composition: soft rush
- 6.1 Vegetation structure: senescent ling
- 6.2 Vegetation structure: signs of browsing
- 6.3 Vegetation structure: burning
- 6.4 Vegetation structure: growth phases of ling
- 7 Physical structure: disturbed bare ground
- 8 Indicators of local distinctiveness

Site name: Bray Head SAC 000714
Habitat/Species: [1230] Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts
(SSCO): To maintain the favourable conservation condition of [1230] in SAC 000714

No.	Ecological Requirements (Attributes as per SSCO)	Pressure /Threat (EU Code 2025)	Pressure/ Threat Ranking	EU Conservation Measure Type (EU Code 2019-2024)	Measure Category	Conservation Measure	Delivery mechanism	Public Authority with statutory responsibility	Implementation timeframe	Integration with high level plans/policy:
1	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	PF15 Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for built-up areas	Low	MF08 Manage changes in hydrological and coastal systems and regimes for construction and development (incl. restoration of habitats).	Contractual	Development of a Protection Project including works to protect existing masonry structures that span bedrock gullies or support embankments at Bray Head.	East Coast Railway Protection Project	Irish Rail	2025	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections.
2	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	PF05 Sports, tourism and leisure activities	Low	MF03 Reduce impact of outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities (incl. restoration of habitats)	Statutory	Development of community engagement events and use of interpretive signage to reduce human-induced pressures on habitat.	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Local Authority	2026+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
3	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	PC01 Extraction of minerals (e.g. rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell)	Low	MC01 Adapt/manage extraction of non-energy resources	Statutory	Consent is required for blasting, drilling, dredging or otherwise removing or disturbing fossils, rock, minerals, mud, sand, gravel or other sediment, if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
4	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	PE01 Roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure	Low	ME01 Reduce impact of transport operation and infrastructure	Statutory	Consent is required for construction or alteration of tracks, paths, roads, bridges, culverts or access routes, if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
5	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	PF05 Sports, tourism and leisure activities	Low	MF03 Reduce impact of outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities (incl. restoration of habitats)	Statutory	Consent is required for developing or consenting to the development or operation of commercial recreational/visitor facilities or organised recreational activities, if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
6	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	PF15 Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for built-up areas	Low	MF08 Manage changes in hydrological and coastal systems and regimes for construction and development (incl. restoration of habitats).	Statutory	Consent is required for reclamation, including infilling, if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
7	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Low	MI03 Management, control or eradication of other invasive alien species	Statutory	Consent is required for the introduction or re-introduction, of plants or animals not found in the area, if not covered by other regulations. [Consent is not required for the planting of crops on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land.]	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
8	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Low	MI04 Restoration of habitats affected by invasive alien species (incl. of Union concern and others)	Statutory	Regulation relating to Invasive Alien Species.	European Union (Invasive Alien Species) Regulations 2024	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
19	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MC01 Adapt/manage extraction of non-energy resources	Statutory	Control of activities, if not covered by other regulations, which could negatively impact on this SAC.	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections

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No.	Ecological Requirements (Attributes as per SSCO)	Pressure /Threat (EU Code 2025)	Pressure/ Threat Ranking	EU Conservation Measure Type (EU Code 2019-2024)	Measure Category	Conservation Measure	Delivery mechanism	Public Authority with statutory responsibility	Implementation timeframe	Integration with high level plans/policy:
20	1. Habitat length, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime, 4.1. Vegetation structure: zonation, 4.2. Vegetation structure: vegetation height, 5.1. Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities, 5.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MF08 Manage changes in hydrological and coastal systems and regimes for construction and development (incl. restoration of habitats.	Statutory	Regulation controlling unconsented development at this site.	Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.	Local Authority/An Coimisiún Pleanála	2000+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections

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1	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Ecosystem function: soil nutrients, 4. Community diversity, 5.1. Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes, 5.2. Vegetation composition: number of positive indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: cover of positive indicator species, 5.4. Vegetation composition: dwarf shrub composition, 5.5. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.6. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 5.7. Vegetation composition: native trees and shrubs, 5.8. Vegetation composition: bracken, 5.9. Vegetation composition: soft rush, 6.1. Vegetation structure: senescent ling, 6.2. Vegetation structure: signs of browsing, 6.3. Vegetation structure: burning, 6.4. Vegetation structure: growth phases of ling, 7. Physical structure: disturbed bare ground, 8. Indicators of local distinctiveness	PA07 Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock	High	MA06 Stop mowing, grazing and other equivalent agricultural activities e.g. burning (incl. restore or improve habitats). MA05 Adapt mowing, grazing and other equivalent agricultural activities (e.g. burning)	Statutory	Consent is required for significant changes in livestock density (including introduction of grazing), changes in livestock type or grazing season, other than on established reseeded grassland, if not covered by other regulations. [Consent is not required for changes of less than 20% in livestock density unless notice has been given that a lower percentage is applicable to a particular site.]	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
2	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Ecosystem function: soil nutrients, 4. Community diversity, 5.1. Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes, 5.2. Vegetation composition: number of positive indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: cover of positive indicator species, 5.4. Vegetation composition: dwarf shrub composition, 5.5. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.6. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 5.7. Vegetation composition: native trees and shrubs, 5.8. Vegetation composition: bracken, 5.9. Vegetation composition: soft rush, 6.1. Vegetation structure: senescent ling, 6.2. Vegetation structure: signs of browsing, 6.3. Vegetation structure: burning, 6.4. Vegetation structure: growth phases of ling, 7. Physical structure: disturbed bare ground, 8. Indicators of local distinctiveness	PA09 Burning for agriculture	High	MA05 Adapt mowing, grazing and other equivalent agricultural activities (e.g. burning)	Statutory	Consent is required for burning, topping, clearing scrub or rough vegetation or reseeded, if not covered by other regulations. [Consent is not required for these activities on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land provided it is greater than 20m from a river, stream or floodplain; or greater than 50m from a wetland, lake, turlough or pond.]	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
3	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Ecosystem function: soil nutrients, 4. Community diversity, 5.1. Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes, 5.2. Vegetation composition: number of positive indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: cover of positive indicator species, 5.4. Vegetation composition: dwarf shrub composition, 5.5. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.6. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 5.7. Vegetation composition: native trees and shrubs, 5.8. Vegetation composition: bracken, 5.9. Vegetation composition: soft rush, 6.1. Vegetation structure: senescent ling, 6.2. Vegetation structure: signs of browsing, 6.3. Vegetation structure: burning, 6.4. Vegetation structure: growth phases of ling, 7. Physical structure: disturbed bare ground, 8. Indicators of local distinctiveness	PA09 Burning for agriculture	High	MA06 Stop mowing, grazing and other equivalent agricultural activities e.g. burning (incl. restore or improve habitats)	Statutory	Enforcement of Section 39 and 40 of the Wildlife Act which states it is an offense to cut, burn, or destroy vegetation on uncultivated land, including hedges and ditches, between March 1st and August 31st in any year. Monitoring and Site Inspections were carried out by Regional staff at this site. No enforcement cases were taken at this site under this regulation.	Wildlife Act 1976, as amended.	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1976+	Wildlife Act 1976, as amended.

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5	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Ecosystem function: soil nutrients, 4. Community diversity, 5.1. Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes, 5.2. Vegetation composition: number of positive indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: cover of positive indicator species, 5.4. Vegetation composition: dwarf shrub composition, 5.5. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.6. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 5.7. Vegetation composition: native trees and shrubs, 5.8. Vegetation composition: bracken, 5.9. Vegetation composition: soft rush, 6.1. Vegetation structure: senescent ling, 6.2. Vegetation structure: signs of browsing, 6.3. Vegetation structure: burning, 6.4. Vegetation structure: growth phases of ling, 7. Physical structure: disturbed bare ground, 8. Indicators of local distinctiveness	PD01 Wind, wave and tidal power (including infrastructure)	Medium	MC03 Adapt/manage renewable energy installation, facilities and operation (excl. hydropower and abstraction activities)	Statutory	Regulation controlling development of infrastructure, including renewable energy infrastructure.	Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended,	Local Authority/An Coimisiún Pleanála	2000+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
6	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Ecosystem function: soil nutrients, 4. Community diversity, 5.1. Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes, 5.2. Vegetation composition: number of positive indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: cover of positive indicator species, 5.4. Vegetation composition: dwarf shrub composition, 5.5. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.6. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 5.7. Vegetation composition: native trees and shrubs, 5.8. Vegetation composition: bracken, 5.9. Vegetation composition: soft rush, 6.1. Vegetation structure: senescent ling, 6.2. Vegetation structure: signs of browsing, 6.3. Vegetation structure: burning, 6.4. Vegetation structure: growth phases of ling, 7. Physical structure: disturbed bare ground, 8. Indicators of local distinctiveness	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MA - Measures related to agricultural practices and agriculture-related habitats	Contractual	40% uptake of eligible participants (5) in the voluntary Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES).	Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	2022	CAP Strategic Plan

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8	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Ecosystem function: soil nutrients, 4. Community diversity, 5.1. Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes, 5.2. Vegetation composition: number of positive indicator species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: cover of positive indicator species, 5.4. Vegetation composition: dwarf shrub composition, 5.5. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 5.6. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 5.7. Vegetation composition: native trees and shrubs, 5.8. Vegetation composition: bracken, 5.9. Vegetation composition: soft rush, 6.1. Vegetation structure: senescent ling, 6.2. Vegetation structure: signs of browsing, 6.3. Vegetation structure: burning, 6.4. Vegetation structure: growth phases of ling, 7. Physical structure: disturbed bare ground, 8. Indicators of local distinctiveness	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MH03 Reduce impact of other specific human activitie	Statutory	Control of activities, if not covered by other regulations, which could negatively impact on this SAC.	European Union Habitats (Bray Head Special Area of Conservation 000714) Regulations 2017	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1999+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections