

Site name: Vale of Clara (Rathdrum Wood) SAC 000733

County: Wicklow

Site Specific Conservation Objective (SSCO) Ecological Attributes
[91A0] Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles

- 1 Habitat area
- 2 Habitat distribution
- 3 Woodland size
- 4.1 Woodland structure: cover and height
- 4.2 Woodland structure: community diversity and extent
- 4.3 Woodland structure: natural regeneration
- 4.4 Woodland structure: dead wood
- 4.5 Woodland structure: veteran trees
- 4.6 Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness
- 4.7 Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing
- 5.1 Vegetation composition: native tree cover
- 5.2 Vegetation composition: typical species
- 5.3 Vegetation composition: negative indicator species

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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:
1	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	High	MI04 Restoration of habitats affected by invasive alien species (incl. of Union concern and others)	Administrative	Removal of non-native Conifers, Rhododendron & Cherry Laurel, Purchase of replacement heavy duty flail/shredder for vegetation management	European Union Habitats (Vale of Clara (Rathdrum Wood) Special Area of Conservation 000733). Regulations 2019	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) & relevant stakeholders	2025+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections.
2	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	High	MI03 Management, control or eradication of other invasive alien species	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)/ Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine	2024+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections.
3	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	High	MI04 Restoration of habitats affected by invasive alien species (incl. of Union concern and others)	Administrative	Target to control and where possible, eradicate Invasive Alien Species within Protected Areas by 2030.	Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023–2030	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) & relevant stakeholders	2023+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections.
4	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	PI03 Problematic native species	Medium	MI05 Management of problematic native species	Administrative	Deer Hunting requires a licence.	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.
5	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	PI03 Problematic native species	Medium	MI05 Management of problematic native species	Administrative	Report into Developing a Sustainable Deer Management Strategy for Ireland.	Deer Management Strategy	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	2023	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections.
6	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MC02 Adapt/manage exploitation of energy resources	Statutory	Control of activities, if not covered by other regulations, which could negatively impact on this SAC.	European Union Habitats (Vale of Clara (Rathdrum Wood) Special Area of Conservation 000733). Regulations 2019	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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8	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MJ01 Implement climate change mitigation measures, MJ02 Implement climate change adaptation measures	Administrative	A roadmap of actions to assist in the achievement of climate change objectives by no later than the end of the year 2050.	Ireland's Climate Action Plan	All Government Departments	2019+	Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021
9	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MB15 Other measures related to forestry practices or forest habitats not covered by other measures	Administrative	Fire management and fire suppression/fighting	NPWS Conservation Measure	National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS)	2025	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections.
10	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MB15 Other measures related to forestry practices or forest habitats not covered by other measures	Administrative	Monitoring by NPWS regional staff 3/4 times per year at this site.	NPWS Conservation Measure	National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS)	2026	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections.
11	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MB15 Other measures related to forestry practices or forest habitats not covered by other measures	Administrative	Management of Deer numbers at this site and erection of fencing.	NPWS Conservation Measure	National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS)	2025	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections.
12	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MA - Measures related to agricultural practices and agriculture-related habitats	Administrative	Monitoring and reporting of relevant farm activity at the SAC. Direct inspections for DAFM Conditionality compliance or via other state Authorities (via Cross Reporting) to Integrated Controls Division in DAFM.	DAFM BISS Conditionality Farm inspection's - NPWS Conservation Ranger Site monitoring. (Cross Compliance).	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	2022+	CAP Strategic Plan

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14	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MI04 Restoration of habitats affected by invasive alien species (incl. of Union concern and others)	Administrative	Identifying, protecting, and maintaining existing non-forested habitats - including swamps, to enhance overall forest biodiversity.	Coillte Conservation Measures	Coillte	2011+	Strategic Vision for our future forest estate
15	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MB06 Stop forest management and exploitation practices	Administrative	Non-native tree species removed and replanted with native tree species.	Coillte Conservation Measures	Coillte	2011	Strategic Vision for our Future Forest Estate
16	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3. Woodland size, 4.1. Woodland structure: cover and height, 4.2 .Woodland structure: community diversity and extent, 4.3. Woodland structure: natural regeneration, 4.4. Woodland structure: dead wood, 4.5. Woodland structure: veteran trees, 4.6. Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness, 4.7. Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing, 5.1. Vegetation composition: native tree cover, 5.2. Vegetation composition: typical species, 5.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures	N/A	MB06 Stop forest management and exploitation practices	Administrative	This site is managed primarily for nature	Coillte Conservation Measures	Coillte	2011	Strategic Vision for our Future Forest Estate
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