

Site name: Split Hills and Long Hill Esker SAC 001831

County: Westmeath

Site Specific Conservation Objective (SSCO) Ecological Attributes
[6210] Semi natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous
substrates Festuco Brometalia important orchid sites

- 1 Habitat area
- 2 Habitat distribution
- 3.1 Vegetation composition: positive indicator species
- 3.2 Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
- 3.3 Vegetation composition: non-native species
- 3.4 Vegetation composition: woody species and bracken
- 4.1 Vegetation structure: broadleaf herb:grass ratio
- 4.2 Vegetation structure: sward height
- 4.3 Vegetation structure: litter
- 5.1 Physical structure: bare soil
- 5.2 Physical structure: grazing or disturbance

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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, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.3. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 3.4 Vegetation composition: woody species and bracken, 4.1. Vegetation structure: broadleaf herb:grass ratio, 4.2. Vegetation structure: sward height, 4.3. Vegetation structure: litter, 5.1. Physical structure: bare soil, 5.2. Physical structure: grazing or disturbance.	PA08 Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock	High	MA07 Restoration of Annex I agricultural habitats (incl. re-establish and improve)	Contractual	1.5% of terrestrial habitat in Split Hills and Long Hill Esker SAC is subject to conservation results based scoring of the habitat as part of the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES).	Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	2022	CAP Strategic Plan
2	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.3. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 3.4 Vegetation composition: woody species and bracken, 4.1. Vegetation structure: broadleaf herb:grass ratio, 4.2. Vegetation structure: sward height, 4.3. Vegetation structure: litter, 5.1. Physical structure: bare soil, 5.2. Physical structure: grazing or disturbance.	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Medium	MI03 Management, control or eradication of other invasive alien species	Administrative /Contractual	Monitoring and clearing of invasive species at this site.	NPWS Conservation Measure	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1997+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
3	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.3. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 3.4 Vegetation composition: woody species and bracken, 4.1. Vegetation structure: broadleaf herb:grass ratio, 4.2. Vegetation structure: sward height, 4.3. Vegetation structure: litter, 5.1. Physical structure: bare soil, 5.2. Physical structure: grazing or disturbance	PA08 Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock	High	MI03 Management, control or eradication of other invasive alien species	Administrative /Contractual	The development of a "Grazing Management Plan" at this site.	NPWS Conservation Measure	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1997+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
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5	1. Habitat area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.3. Vegetation composition: non-native species, 3.4 Vegetation composition: woody species and bracken, 4.1. Vegetation structure: broadleaf herb:grass ratio, 4.2. Vegetation structure: sward height, 4.3. Vegetation structure: litter, 5.1. Physical structure: bare soil, 5.2. Physical structure: grazing or disturbance.	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Medium	MI03 Management, control or eradication of other invasive alien species	Statutory	Consent is required for burning, topping, clearing scrub or rough vegetation or reseeding 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 (Split Hills and Long Hill Esker Special Area of Conservation 001831) Regulations 2019	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	1997+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
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