

Site Name: Glenstal Wood SAC

Site Code: 001432

Glenstal Wood, which is associated with Glenstal Abbey, lies in the western foothills of the Slievefelim Mountains, about 8 km north-west of Cappamore, Co. Limerick. The glen has been cut into Old Red Sandstone and runs in a north-easterly direction for about 2 km, eventually becoming a steep-sided rocky ravine.

The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes):

[1421] Killarney Fern (Trichomanes speciosum)

At Glenstal Wood, oak (*Quercus* sp.) woodland remnants occur which support a rich fern, bryophyte and lichen flora. The rare lichen, *Enterographa elabora*, a species known from only three other counties in Ireland, has been recorded at the site. Some oak woodland remnants are also found about Glenstal Abbey.

The site is of conservation importance for the presence of Killarney Fern (*Trichomanes speciosum*), a rare species that is listed on Annex II of the E.U. Habitats Directive and that is also protected under the Flora (Protection) Order, 1999.