

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

DECLARATION OF AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AT DRUMLISALEEN, COUNTY FERMANAGH.  
ARTICLE 24 OF THE NATURE CONSERVATION AND AMENITY LANDS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1985

The Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland (the Department), having consulted the Committee for Nature Conservation and being satisfied that the area delineated by the solid black line on the attached map (the area) is of special scientific interest by reason of its grassland flora and fauna and accordingly needs to be specially protected, hereby declares the area to be an area of special scientific interest to be known as the 'Drumlisaleen area of special scientific interest'.


The area is of special scientific interest because of the range of grassland types that are present. The seven small hay meadows are outstanding in terms of species richness (99 vascular plant species present). The vegetation is generally dominated by Jointed Rush (Juncus articulatus), with a low cover of grasses and an abundance of sedges (12 species) including much Carex panicea, C. pulicaris and C. hostiana. Meadow Thistle (Cirsium dissectum) is the dominant forb in two fields, while in one field Marsh Hawk's-beard (Crepis paludosa) is locally abundant in flushed areas. There is an abundance of orchids, including Common Twayblade (Listera ovata), Early Purple Orchid (Orchis mascula) and Greater Butterfly Orchid (Platanthera chlorantha). Several local vascular plant species occur including Whorl Grass (Catabrosa aquatica) and Smooth-stalked Sedge (Carex laevigata).

The scientific interest of the site will be maintained if there is no change in the established farming practice. Operations and activities which are likely to damage the scientific interest of the site and which would therefore require the prior consent of the Department of the Environment are as follows:-

- Any change in the established method and frequency of mowing.
- Any change in the present annual pattern and intensity of grazing, including any change in the type of livestock used.
- Any change in the annual pattern of application of manure or fertiliser.
- The application of any chemicals for control of weeds, insects or diseases.
- Any hedge or scrub removal and infilling of ditches.
- Field drainage or field boundary drainage.
- Any tree planting.
- The dumping or storing of any matter.
- Cultivation.
- Complete or partial reseeding.
- Construction of roads, tracks or buildings.
- Use of vehicles or machinery likely to damage the vegetation.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department  
of the Environment for Northern Ireland on

7 September, 1987.

  
J. C. L. PHILLIPS  
Assistant Secretary  
*Phyllis Roling*  
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