

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

DECLARATION OF AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AT GARRY BOG, COUNTY ANTRIM.
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 the flora, fauna and physiographical features and accordingly needs to be specially protected, hereby declares the area to be an area of special scientific interest and to be known as the "Garry Bog area of special scientific interest".

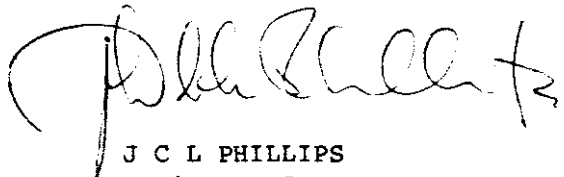
The area is of special scientific interest because it contains one of the largest remaining areas of undamaged lowland raised bog in Northern Ireland. The site is especially important for its partially intact lagg, its extensive well-patterned pool system, and its high cover of Sphagnum species, including abundant hummocks of Sphagnum imbricatum and S. fuscum. The nationally rare S. pulchrum is a prominent 'pool edge' species, and is thought to occur here in greater abundance than on any other site in Northern Ireland.

The following operations and activities appear to the Department to be likely to damage the flora, fauna or physiographical features of the area:-

- Cultivation, including ploughing, rotovating, harrowing or re-seeding.
- Changes in the grazing regime, including changes in type of livestock or significant increase or decrease in livestock population, or changes in the seasonal pattern of grazing or cessation of grazing.
- Changes in livestock feeding practice.
- The introduction of mowing or other methods of cutting vegetation.
- Application of manure, slurry, fertilisers or lime.
- Application of pesticides, herbicides, fungicides or other chemicals deployed to kill, selectively or non-selectively, any form of animal, plant or other living organism.
- Dumping, spreading or discharge of any matter.
- Burning.
- The release into the area of any wild, feral or domestic animal, plant, or seed. "Animal" includes any mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird, fish or invertebrate.
- The killing or removal of any wild animal. "Animal" includes any mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird, fish or invertebrate.
- The destruction, displacement, removal or cutting of any plant, seed or plant remains.

- The introduction of tree or woodland management (including afforestation or planting).
- Drainage, including peat drainage or the use of mole, tile, tunnel or other artificial drains.
- Modification of the structure of water courses (for example, rivers, burns, ditches, drains) including their banks and beds as by realignment, regrading or dredging.
- Management of aquatic or bank vegetation.
- The alteration of water levels or water tables or utilisation of water (including storage or abstraction).
- Infilling of ditches, drains, ponds, pools or marshes.
- Reclamation of land from bog, marsh or river.
- Extraction of minerals including peat, sand, gravel, topsoil or sub-soil.
- Construction, removal or destruction of roads, tracks, walls, fences, hard-standings, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying, maintenance or removal of pipelines or cables, above or below ground.
- Storage of materials.
- Erection of permanent or temporary structures or the undertaking of building, engineering or other operations, including drilling, or the formation of access roads.
- Use of vehicles or craft likely to damage the vegetation.
- Recreational, educational or research activities likely to damage the vegetation.
- Changes in game management.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the
Department of the Environment for
Northern Ireland on 20 March, 1987


J C L PHILLIPS
Assistant Secretary

Philip Rosen
Gene Smart
Boat of St. Mark
Dublin.
20 March 1987