

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

DECLARATION OF AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AT GORTNAGORY, 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 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 "Gortnagory area of special scientific interest".

The area is of special scientific interest because of its large colony of the nationally rare Spiranthes romanzoffiana which occurs here at its only known high-altitude site in Northern Ireland.

The following operations and activities appear to the Department to be likely to damage the flora of the area:-

- Cultivation, including ploughing, rotovating, harrowing or reseeded.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Drainage, including the use of mole, tile, tunnel or other artificial drains.
- Modification of the structure of water courses, (for example, burns, springs, ditches, drains), including their banks and beds as by realignment, regrading or dredging.
- Infilling of ditches, pools or marshes.
- Extraction of minerals.
- 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.
- Clearance of boulders, large stones or loose rock.
- Use of vehicles or craft likely to damage or disturb the flora.
- Recreational, educational or research activities likely to damage the flora.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the
Department of the Environment for
Northern Ireland on 17TH
DECEMBER 1986



J C L PHILLIPS
Assistant Secretary

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