

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

DECLARATION OF AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AT MONINEA BOG, CO 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 Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside 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 to be known as the "Moninea Bog area of special scientific interest".

The area is of special scientific interest because it is one of the best remaining examples of a raised bog within the drumlin belt of South Ulster. There were formerly many, mostly small, bogs occupying hollows between the drumlins, but the majority have been either wholly destroyed or severely modified by turf-cutting, drainage or agricultural reclamation. Moninea is one of the least modified bogs, not only within the drumlin belt, but within the whole of Northern Ireland.

The area is especially important for its high cover of Sphagnum moss species, including many large hummocks of S. imbricatum and S. fuscum. The nationally rare S. pulchrum is locally abundant, while the scarce Sundews, Drosera anglica and D. intermedia, are frequent.

SCHEDULE

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

1. Grazing.
2. The disturbance or modification of the vegetation, land surface, sub-surface, water levels or water courses whether by peat cutting, engineering works, drainage works, the application spreading or storage of any material whatsoever on or to the vegetation or land surface, or by any other means.
3. Burning.
4. The introduction or release into the area of any wild, feral or domestic animal, plant or seed. "Animal" includes any mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird, fish or invertebrate.
5. The destruction, displacement, removal or cutting of any plant, seed or plant remains.

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6. Use of vehicles or craft likely to damage the vegetation.
7. Recreational, educational or research activities.

Sealed with the Official Seal of
The Department of the Environment for
Northern Ireland on 12 April, 1990.



J C L PHILLIPS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Phyllis Robinson
Civil Servant
Box of Stornoway,
Belfast.

Footnote

Please note that many of the operations and activities listed above are capable of being carried out either on a large scale or in a very small way. While it is impossible to define exactly what is "large" and what is "small", the Department would intend to approach each case in a common sense and practical way. It is very unlikely that small scale operations would give rise for concern and if this was the case the Department would give consent, particularly if there is a long history of the operation being undertaken in that precise location.

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