EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (LOUGH NILLAN BOG SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA 004110)) REGULATIONS 2011.
S.I. No. 633 of 2011.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (CONSERVATION OF WILD BIRDS (LOUGH NILLAN BOG SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA 004110)) REGULATIONS 2011.


1. (1) These Regulations may be cited as the European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Lough Nillan Bog Special Protection Area 004110)) Regulations 2011.

(2) These Regulations come into operation on 7 December 2011.

2. (1) In these Regulations—


“farm or land management plan” means an agreement between the holder of any estate, right or interest in land within the Special Protection Area and the Minister or the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine for the purposes of, inter alia, compliance with the Directive and Council Directive No. 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, this may take the form of:

(a) either a plan under the Farm Plan Scheme or management agreements administered by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, or

Notice of the making of this Statutory Instrument was published in “Iris Oifigiúil” of 13th December, 2011.
(b) a Rural Environment Protection Scheme (REPS) plan, administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, or

(c) measures taken as part of the Agri-Environment Options Scheme (AEOS), administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, or

(d) any similar or successor plan or scheme;

“foreshore area” means the bed and shore, below the line of high water of ordinary or medium tides, of the sea and of every tidal river and tidal estuary and of every channel, creek and bay of the sea or of any such river or estuary;

“Minister” means the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht;

“public authority” means:

(a) a Minister of the Government;

(b) a local authority within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2001 (No. 37 of 2001); or,

(c) a board or other body (but not including a company under the Companies Acts) established by or under statute;

“Special Protection Area” or “SPA” means the area which is designated under Regulation 3;

“waterbird” means any bird ecologically dependent on a wetland habitat wholly, or for at least part of their annual cycle;

“wetland” refers to areas of habitat containing water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, static or flowing, fresh, brackish, or marine.

(2) A word or expression that is used in these Regulations and is also used in the Directive shall, unless the contrary intention appears, have in these Regulations the meaning that it has in the Directive.

3. In order to ensure the survival and reproduction of the species to which Article 4 of the Directive relates, including in particular the species specified in Schedule 3 and having taken account of the matters referred to in Article 4 of the Directive, the area referred to in Schedule 2 and further identified by reference to the map contained in Schedule 1, is designated as a Special Protection Area.

4. (1) (a) The indicative map contained in Schedule 1 showing the boundary of the Special Protection Area shall be drawn to such convenient scale as the Minister thinks fit and the Minister shall seal the map and shall deposit it in the offices of the Minister.

(b) The Minister may prepare more detailed maps, in such convenient number of separate sheets as the Minister thinks fit, showing the
boundary of the Special Protection Area and shall seal each of the
maps and shall deposit them in the offices of the Minister. Any dis-
pute involving the boundary of the Special Protection Area shall be
determined by reference to maps prepared under this subsection.

(2) The said maps when so deposited in the said offices of the Minister shall
be retained in such office and such maps, or true copies thereof, shall be open
for inspection free of charge in such offices by any person at any time at which
such offices are open for the transaction of public business, and it shall be lawful
for the Minister to prepare and supply to any person requesting the same a true
copy of the map or maps so deposited with the Minister or any particular part
or sheet thereof and to charge for such copy such sum as the Minister may fix.

5. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a person shall not perform any operation or
activity specified in Schedule 4 within the Special Protection Area without the
prior written consent of the Minister.

(2) There is no requirement to obtain the consent of the Minister if:—

(a) the operation or activity is licensed by or subject to the permission of
another public authority, or

(b) the operation or activity is specified as permitted in a farm or land
management plan (subject to compliance with any conditions set out
therein).

6. (1) Any person who contravenes Regulation 5(1) commits an offence and
is liable:—

(a) on summary conviction to a Class A fine or imprisonment for any
term not exceeding six months or both, or

(b) on conviction on indictment to a fine not exceeding €500,000 or
imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or both.

(2) A summary offence under these Regulations may be prosecuted by the
Minister.

Revocation

7. (1) Paragraph 91 (inserted by the European Communities (Conservation
of Wild Birds) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1996 (S.I. No. 298 of 1996))
of the Schedule to the European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds)
Regulations 1985 (S.I. No. 291 of 1985) is revoked.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1)—

(a) any civil or criminal proceedings brought under the Regulations
revoked in paragraph (1) and pending when these Regulations come
into operation may be continued as if they had been brought under
these Regulations.
(b) any document, notice, decision, act or thing issued, made or done by the Minister under the Regulations revoked in paragraph (1) shall continue to have full force and effect on and after the commencement of these Regulations.

(c) any act, decision or other thing commenced but not completed by the Minister under the Regulations revoked in paragraph (1) may be continued and completed by the Minister under these Regulations.
Schedule 1

LIMISTÉIR CHAOMHNÁITHE SPEISIALTA
SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA

LOUGH NILLAN BOG SPA
004110
Area / Achar 4116 ha

Greater detail on boundary delineation should be sought by telephoning 1-800-405000 or viewing relevant text on www.npws.ie

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SCHEDULE 2

DESCRIPTION OF AREA

The area known as Lough Nillan Bog Special Protection Area 004110 is situated in the county of Donegal being the land and waters enclosed on the map (contained in Schedule 1) within the inner margin of the red line and hatched in red. The area of land known as Lough Nillan Bog Special Protection Area 004110 is situated in whole or in part in the townlands of Carrickatlieve Glebe, Cornagrillagh (E.D. Glenties), Corraness Glebe, Croaghanart, Croankeeran, Cronacarkfree, Cronaslieve, Derries (E.D. Glenties), Disert, Doobin, Doorian, Gortnacart Glebe, Kilrean Upper, Lacklea, Lagnagillew, Luaghnabrogue, Meenacahan, Meenachallow, Meenacloghspar, Meenakilwirra, Meenanall, Meenawannia, Meentanakill, Meenybraddan, Sallows, Strasallagh, Strawoaghter Glebe, Tamur (E.D. Bonnyglen), Tullyhonwar and Tullynaglaggan.

SCHEDULE 3

SPECIAL CONSERVATION INTERESTS

Bird Species

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anser albifrons flavirostris</td>
<td>Greenland White-fronted Goose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falco columbarius</td>
<td>Merlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pluvialis apricaria</td>
<td>Golden Plover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calidris alpina schinzii</td>
<td>Dunlin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHEDULE 4

SITE SPECIFIC OPERATIONS OR ACTIVITIES REQUIRING CONSENT OF THE MINISTER:

1. Introduction, or re-introduction, of plants or animals not found in the area. [Consent is not required for the planting of crops on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land.]

2. Construction or alteration of tracks, paths, roads, bridges, culverts or access routes.

3. Agricultural improvement of heath or bog.

4. Drainage works including digging, deepening, widening or blocking a drain, watercourse or waterbody.

5. Planting of trees or multi-annual bioenergy crops.

6. Any activity intended to disturb birds, including by mechanical, air, gas, wind powered or audible means.
7. Developing or consenting to the development or operation of commercial recreational/visitor facilities or activities.

GIVEN under my Official Seal,
7 December 2011.

JIMMY DEENIHAN TD,
Minister for Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Instrument and does not purport to be a legal interpretation.)


The effect of these Regulations is to designate a site as a Special Protection Area in accordance with Article 4 of the Directive. The geographical area of the Special Protection Area designated by these Regulations is defined by Schedule 1 (a map or maps of the area) and Schedule 2 (a list of the townlands in question / a description of the area). For more detailed maps than those contained in Schedule 1, or for greater detail on boundary delineation, contact should be made with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht by telephoning 1-800-405000 or by viewing the relevant text or map details on www.npws.ie.

The bird species cited in Schedule 3 of these Regulations are specified, in accordance with the Directive, in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution. Under Article 5 of the Directive all species of birds are afforded protection from disturbance, capture and damage to nests and eggs, not just the birds listed on Schedule 3 (with the exception of those birds covered under Articles 7 for hunting and 9, where derogations are listed).

Those operations or activities requiring the consent of the Minister listed at Schedule 4 to these Regulations are cited for their potential to cause disturbance or damage to the bird species and their habitats specified in Schedule 3 of these Regulations. Landowners or occupiers should contact the local National Parks and Wildlife Service office of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht before undertaking any of the works listed at Schedule 4. (See www.npws.ie for contact details). Please note that operations/activities other than those listed at Schedule 4 to these Regulations, such as effluent discharge, planning permission, aquaculture, fishing or forestry require a licence or permission from the appropriate consent authority.

These Regulations provide (Regulation 6) that contravention of the provisions of these Regulations shall constitute an offence. Regulation 6 also provides for penalties.