

National Parks and Wildlife Service

Conservation Objectives Series

Drummin Wood SAC 002181



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

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Introduction

The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation status of habitats and species of community interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives and Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas are designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as the Natura 2000 network.

European and national legislation places a collective obligation on Ireland and its citizens to maintain habitats and species in the Natura 2000 network at favourable conservation condition. The Government and its agencies are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of regulations that will ensure the ecological integrity of these sites.

A site-specific conservation objective aims to define favourable conservation condition for a particular habitat or species at that site.

The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when:

- its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing, and
- the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and
- the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when:

- population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats, and
- the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and
- there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

Notes/Guidelines:

1. The targets given in these conservation objectives are based on best available information at the time of writing. As more information becomes available, targets for attributes may change. These will be updated periodically, as necessary.
2. An appropriate assessment based on these conservation objectives will remain valid even if the targets are subsequently updated, providing they were the most recent objectives available when the assessment was carried out. It is essential that the date and version are included when objectives are cited.
3. Assessments cannot consider an attribute in isolation from the others listed for that habitat or species, or for other habitats and species listed for that site. A plan or project with an apparently small impact on one attribute may have a significant impact on another.
4. Please note that the maps included in this document do not necessarily show the entire extent of the habitats and species for which the site is listed. This should be borne in mind when appropriate assessments are being carried out.
5. When using these objectives, it is essential that the relevant backing/supporting documents are consulted, particularly where instructed in the targets or notes for a particular attribute.

Qualifying Interests

** indicates a priority habitat under the Habitats Directive*

002181 Drummin Wood SAC

91A0 Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles

Please note that this SAC overlaps with Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA (004168). See map 2. The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.

Supporting documents, relevant reports & publications

Supporting documents, NPWS reports and publications are available for download from: www.npws.ie/Publications

NPWS Documents

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Year : | 2008 |
| Title : | National survey of native woodlands 2003-2008 |
| Author : | Perrin, P.M.; Martin, J.; Barron, S.; O'Neill, F.H.; McNutt, K.E.; Delaney, A. |
| Series : | Unpublished report to NPWS |
| Year : | 2010 |
| Title : | A provisional inventory of ancient and long-established woodland in Ireland |
| Author : | Perrin, P.M.; Daly, O.H. |
| Series : | Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 46 |
| Year : | 2013 |
| Title : | Results of a monitoring survey of old sessile oak woods and alluvial forests |
| Author : | O'Neill, F.H.; Barron, S.J. |
| Series : | Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 71 |
| Year : | 2016 |
| Title : | Ireland Red List No. 10: Vascular Plants |
| Author : | Wyse Jackson, M.; FitzPatrick, Ú.; Cole, E.; Jebb, M.; McFerran, D.; Sheehy Skeffington, M.; Wright, M. |
| Series : | Ireland Red List Series, NPWS |
| Year : | in prep. |
| Title : | The monitoring and assessment of four EU Habitats Directive Annex I woodland habitats |
| Author : | Daly, O.H.; O'Neill, F.H.; Barron, S.J. |
| Series : | Irish Wildlife Manuals |

Other References

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Year : | 2002 |
| Title : | Reversing the habitat fragmentation of British woodlands |
| Author : | Peterken, G. |
| Series : | WWF-UK, London |
| Year : | 2016 |
| Title : | Irish Vegetation Classification: Technical Progress Report No. 2 |
| Author : | Perrin, P. |
| Series : | Report submitted to National Biodiversity Data Centre |

Spatial data sources

Year : Revision 2010

Title : National Survey of Native Woodlands 2003-2008. Version 1

GIS Operations : QI selected; clipped to SAC boundary. Expert opinion used as necessary to resolve any issues arising

Used For : 91A0 (map 3)

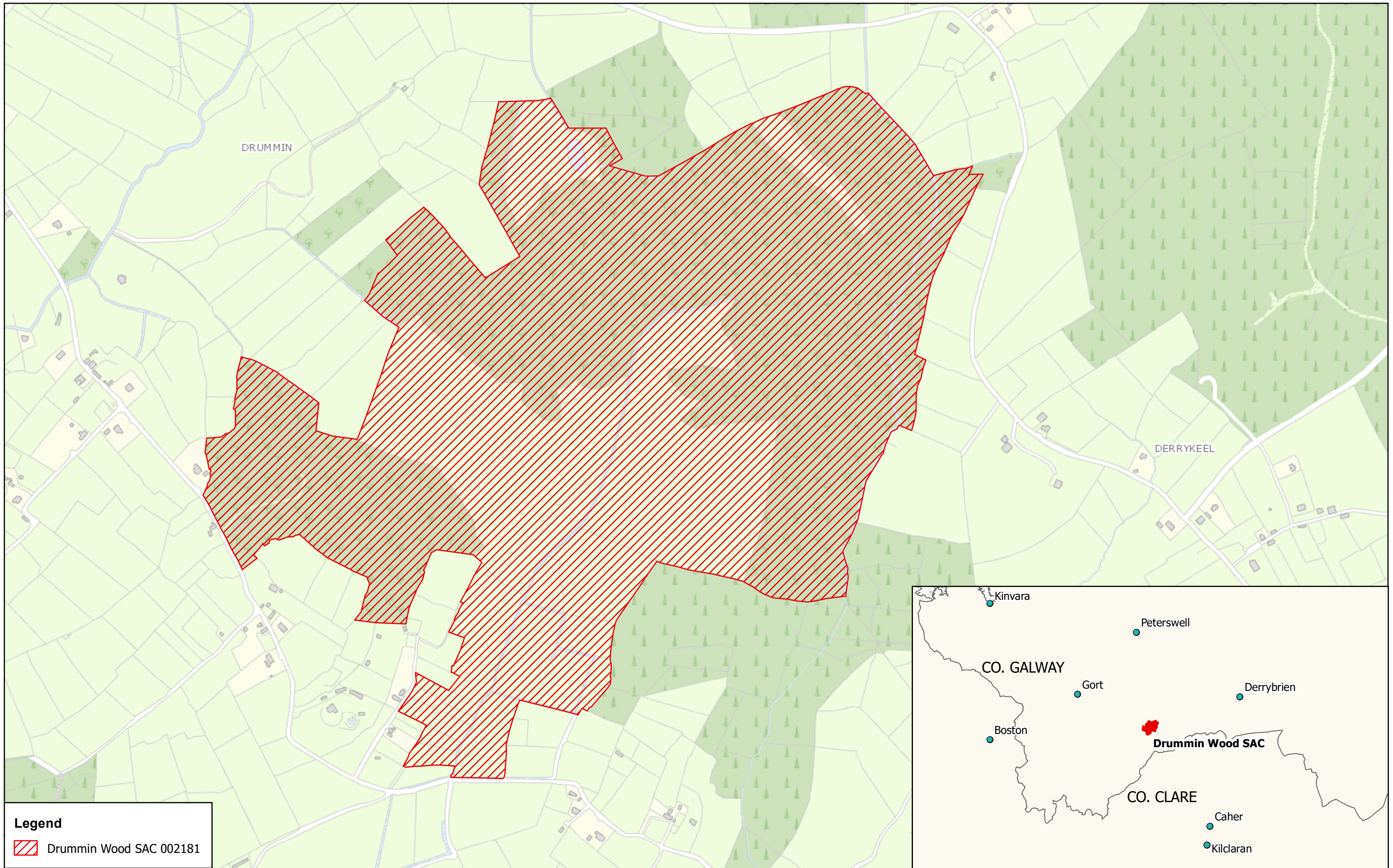
Conservation Objectives for : Drummin Wood SAC [002181]

91A0 Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles


To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles in Drummin Wood SAC, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

| Attribute | Measure | Target | Notes |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Habitat area | Hectares | Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes. See map 3 | Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles is present at Drummin Wood SAC. As part of the National Survey of Native Woodlands (NSNW), Drummin Wood (NSNW site code 1498) was surveyed by Perrin et al. (2008). Drummin Wood (code 1498) was also included in national monitoring surveys (O'Neill and Barron, 2013; Daly et al., in prep.). Map 3 shows the minimum area of old sessile oak woodland within the SAC, which is estimated to be 39.3ha (Perrin et al., 2008). It is important to note that further unsurveyed areas may be present within the SAC |
| Habitat distribution | Occurrence | No decline, subject to natural processes. The woodland location is shown on map 3 | Distribution based on Perrin et al. (2008). It is important to note that further unsurveyed areas may be present within the SAC |
| Woodland size | Hectares | Area stable or increasing. Where topographically possible, "large" woods at least 25ha in size and "small" woods at least 3ha in size | The target areas for individual woodlands aim to reduce habitat fragmentation and benefit those species requiring 'deep' woodland conditions (Peterken, 2002). In some cases, topographical constraints may restrict expansion |
| Woodland structure: cover and height | Percentage; metres; centimetres | Total canopy cover at least 30%; median canopy height at least 11m; native shrub layer cover 10-75%; native herb/dwarf shrub layer cover at least 20% and height at least 20 cm; bryophyte cover at least 4% | The target aims for a diverse structure with a relatively closed canopy containing mature trees; subcanopy layer with semi-mature trees and shrubs; and well-developed herb layer and ground layer. Assessment criteria are described in Daly et al. (in prep.) and O'Neill and Barron (2013) |
| Woodland structure: community diversity and extent | Hectares | Maintain diversity and extent of community types | Described in Perrin et al. (2008). See also the Irish Vegetation Classification (Perrin, 2016; www.biodiversityireland.ie/projects/national-vegetation-database/irish-vegetation-classification) |
| Woodland structure: natural regeneration | Seedling: sapling: pole ratio | Seedlings, saplings and pole age-classes of target species for 91A0 woodlands and other native tree species occur in adequate proportions to ensure survival of woodland canopy | The target species for 91A0 are sessile oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>) and the hybrid oak <i>Quercus x rosacea</i> . Assessment criteria are described in Daly et al. (in prep.) and O'Neill and Barron (2013) |
| Woodland structure: dead wood | Number per hectare | At least 19 stems/ha of dead wood of at least 20cm diameter | Dead wood is a valuable resource and an integral part of a healthy, functioning woodland ecosystem. Dead wood comprises old senescent trees, standing dead trees, fallen dead wood (including large branches) and rotten stumps of any species. Assessment criteria are described in Daly et al. (in prep.) and O'Neill and Barron (2013) |
| Woodland structure: veteran trees | Number per hectare | No decline | Mature and veteran trees are important habitats for bryophytes, lichens, saproxylic organisms and some bird species. Their retention is important to ensure continuity of habitats/niches and propagule sources |

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness | Occurrence; population size | No decline in distribution and, in the case of red listed and other rare or localised species, population size | Includes ancient or long-established woodlands (see Perrin and Daly, 2010), archaeological and geological features as well as red listed and other rare or localised species. Perrin and Daly (2010) identified a large block of Long-Established Woodland (I) (i.e. continuously wooded since the 1st edition OS maps of 1830-44, these stands may potentially be of ancient origin, but no positive evidence of antiquity was found in older documentation) in the eastern part of the SAC. The very rare narrow-leaved helleborine (<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>) has been recorded from the site (NPWS internal files). This orchid species is listed on the Flora (Protection) Order, 2015 and is listed as vulnerable on the Irish Red List (Wyse Jackson et al., 2016) |
| Woodland structure: indicators of overgrazing | Occurrence | All four indicators of overgrazing absent | There are four indicators of overgrazing within 91A0: topiary effect on shrubs and young trees, browse line on mature trees, abundant dung, and severe recent bark stripping (Daly et al., in prep.; O'Neill and Barron, 2013) |
| Vegetation composition: native tree cover | Percentage | No decline. Native tree cover at least 90% of canopy; target species cover at least 50% of canopy | The target species for 91A0 are sessile oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>) and the hybrid oak <i>Quercus x rosacea</i> (Daly et al., in prep.; O'Neill and Barron, 2013) |
| Vegetation composition: typical species | Occurrence | At least 1 target species for 91A0 woodlands present; at least 6 positive indicator species for 91A0 woodlands present | A variety of typical native species should be present, depending on woodland type. The target species for 91A0 are sessile oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>) and the hybrid oak <i>Quercus x rosacea</i> . Positive indicator species for 91A0 are listed in Daly et al. (in prep.) and O'Neill and Barron (2013) |
| Vegetation composition: negative indicator species | Occurrence | Negative indicator species cover not greater than 10%; regeneration of negative indicator species absent | Negative indicator species (i.e. any non-native species, including herbaceous species such as montbretia (<i>Crocasmia x crocosmiiflora</i>) should be absent or under control. The old sessile oak woodland at Drummin Wood SAC exhibits a high degree of nativeness. Perrin et al. (2008) found only a small amount of beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>) on the eastern margin of the SAC |



Legend

 Drummin Wood SAC 002181


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Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

**MAP 1:
DRUMMIN WOOD SAC
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES
SAC DESIGNATION**

Map to be read in conjunction with the NPWS Conservation Objectives Document


**SITE CODE:
SAC 002181; version 3. CO. GALWAY**

0 50 100 200 Metres

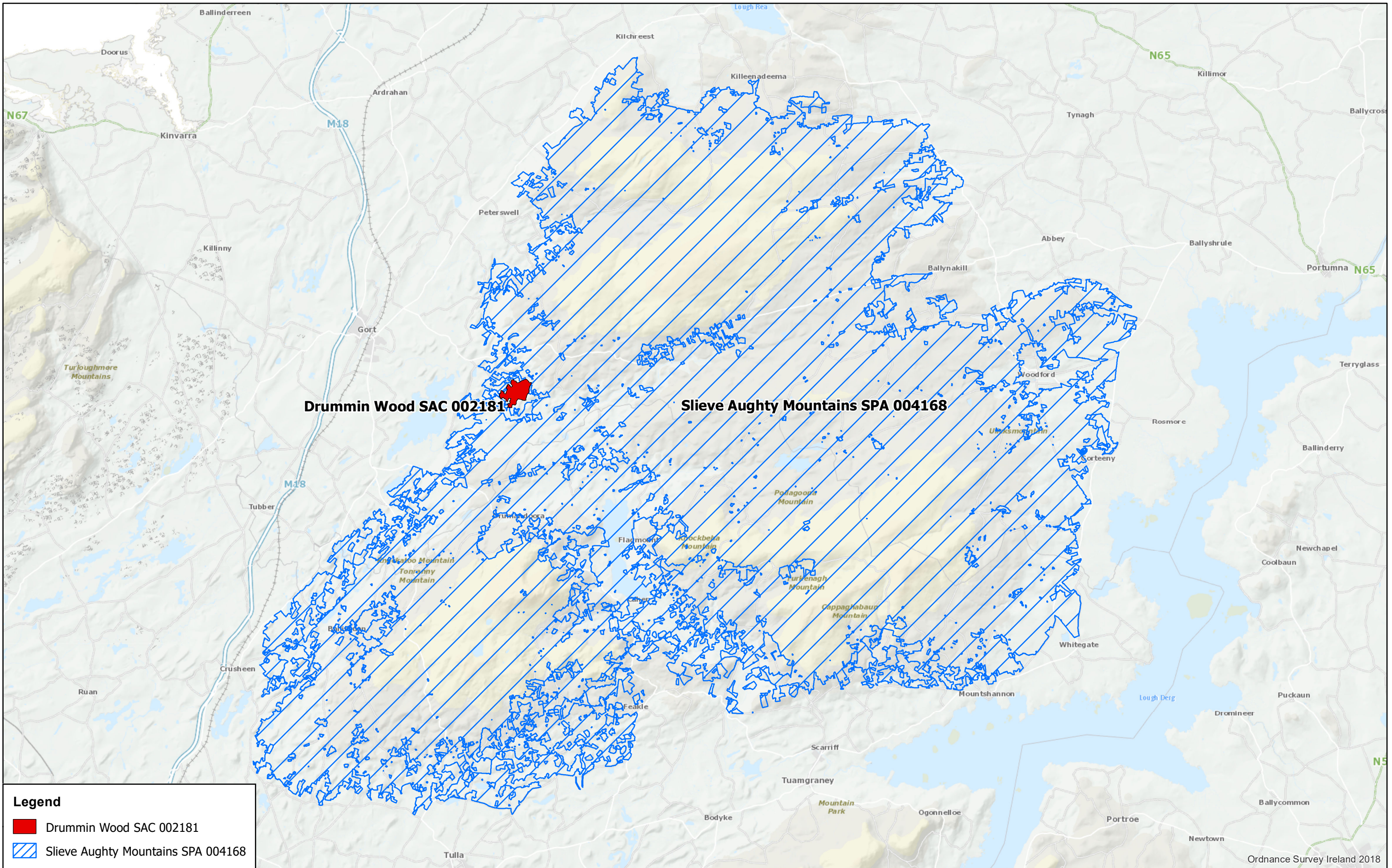


The mapped boundaries are of an indicative and general nature only. Boundaries of designated areas are subject to revision.
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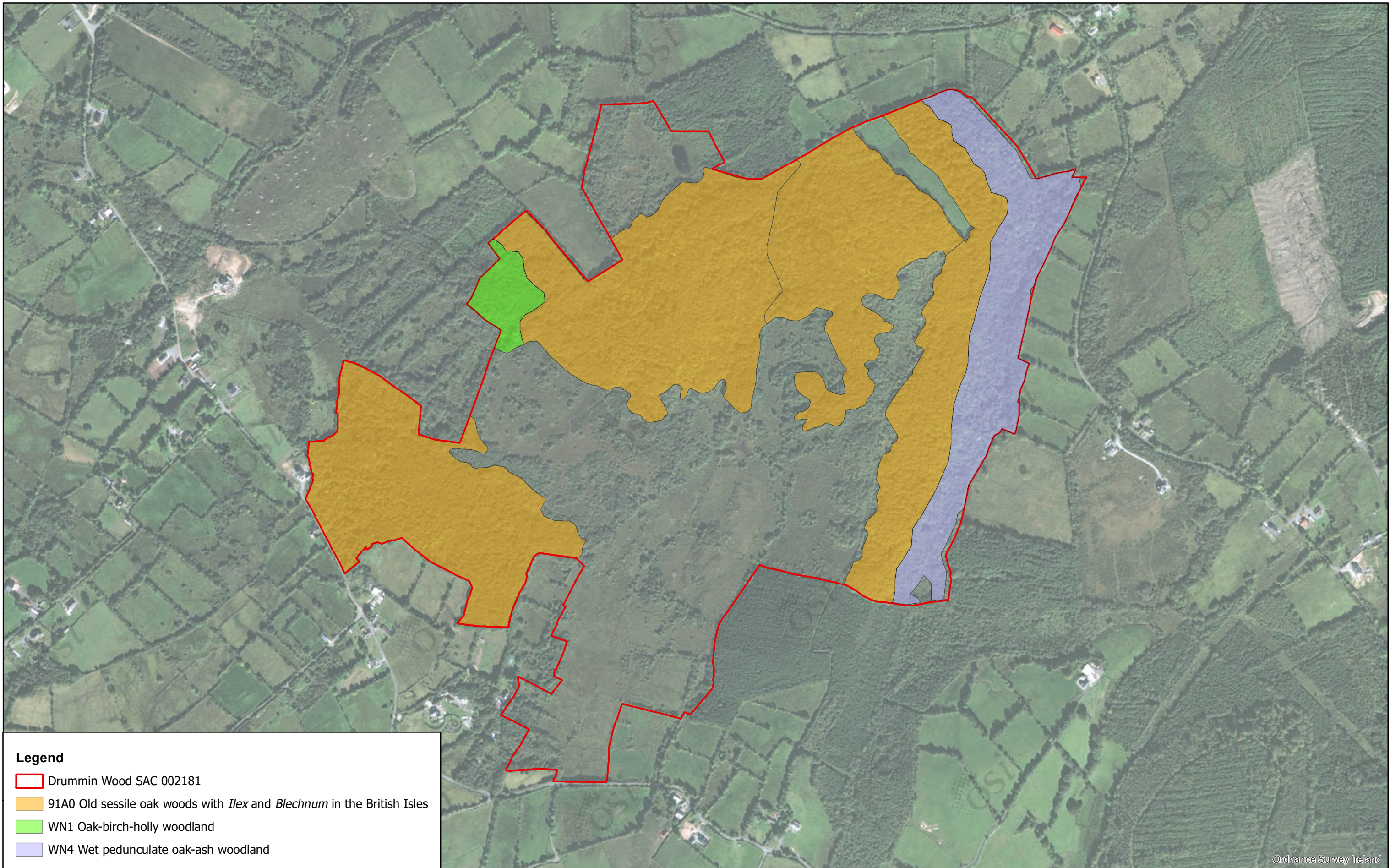
Date: October 2020



Legend

- Drummin Wood SAC 002181
- Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA 004168

Ordnance Survey Ireland 2018



Legend

- Drummin Wood SAC 002181
- 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles
- WN1 Oak-birch-holly woodland
- WN4 Wet pedunculate oak-ash woodland

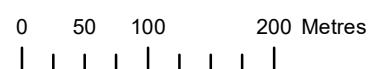
Ordnance Survey Ireland



**MAP 3:
DRUMMIN WOOD SAC
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES
WOODLAND HABITATS**

Map to be read in conjunction with the NPWS Conservation Objectives Document

**SITE CODE:
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Date: October 2020