

# National Parks and Wildlife Service

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## *Conservation Objectives Series*

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### Corraun Plateau SAC 000485



An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta,  
Gnóthaí Réigiúnacha, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta

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Department of Arts, Heritage,  
Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs



**National Parks and Wildlife Service,  
Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs,  
7 Ely Place, Dublin 2, Ireland.  
Web: [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie)  
E-mail: [nature.conservation@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:nature.conservation@ahg.gov.ie)**

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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

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000485	Corraun Plateau SAC
4010	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>
4030	European dry heaths
4060	Alpine and Boreal heaths
5130	<i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands
8110	Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels ( <i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i> )
8220	Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation

**Please note that this SAC adjoins Owenduff/Nepin Complex SAC (000534). See map 2. The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for adjacent sites as appropriate.**

## Supporting documents, relevant reports & publications

Supporting documents, NPWS reports and publications are available for download from: [www.npws.ie/Publications](http://www.npws.ie/Publications)

### NPWS Documents

<b>Year :</b>	2012
<b>Title :</b>	The Conservation Status of Juniper Formations in Ireland
<b>Author :</b>	Cooper, F.; Stone, R.E.; McEvoy, P.; Wilkins, T.; Reid, N.
<b>Series :</b>	Irish Wildlife Manual No. 63
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<b>Year :</b>	2014
<b>Title :</b>	Guidelines for a national survey and conservation assessment of upland vegetation and habitats in Ireland, Version 2.0
<b>Author :</b>	Perrin, P.M.; Barron, S.J.; Roche, J.R.; O'Hanrahan, B.
<b>Series :</b>	Irish Wildlife Manual No. 79
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<b>Year :</b>	2014
<b>Title :</b>	National survey of upland habitats (pilot survey phase, 2009-2010), site report no. 2: Corraun Plateau cSAC (000485), Co. Mayo (revision)
<b>Author :</b>	Roche, J.R.; Perrin, P.M.; Barron, S.J.; Daly, O.H.
<b>Series :</b>	Unpublished report to NPWS
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<b>Year :</b>	2014
<b>Title :</b>	National survey of upland habitats (phase 4, 2013-2014), summary report
<b>Author :</b>	Barron, S.J.; Perrin, P.M.
<b>Series :</b>	Unpublished report to NPWS
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<b>Year :</b>	2016
<b>Title :</b>	Corraun Plateau SAC (site code: 485) Conservation objectives supporting document- upland habitats V1
<b>Author :</b>	NPWS
<b>Series :</b>	Conservation objectives supporting document

## Spatial data sources

**Year :** 2010  
**Title :** National Survey of Upland Habitats  
**GIS Operations :** Habitat dataset for site clipped to SAC boundary. Relevant QI selected and exported to new dataset. Expert opinion used as necessary to resolve any issues arising  
**Used For :** 4010, 4030, 4060, 8110, 8220 (maps 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8)

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**Year :** 2012  
**Title :** The conservation status of juniper formations in Ireland  
**GIS Operations :** Juniper formations polygon centroids clipped to SAC boundary  
**Used For :** 5130 (map 6)

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**4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix***

**To restore the favourable conservation condition of Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* in Corraun Plateau SAC, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:**

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Habitat area	Hectares	Area increasing, subject to natural processes	Corraun Plateau SAC was surveyed as part of the National Survey of Upland Habitats (NSUH; see Roche et al., 2014 & Perrin et al., 2014). The total current area of wet heath in the SAC stated by Roche et al. (2014) is 2082.4ha. It is the most extensive Annex I habitat at the SAC covering 53.57% of the SAC. Roche et al. (2014) report obvious losses of habitat since 1995 of approximately 8.07ha. A summary of the mapping methodology and a brief discussion of restoration potential are presented in the uplands supporting document
Habitat distribution	Occurrence	No decline from current distribution, subject to natural processes. See map 3	Wet heath was recorded by Roche et al. (2014) throughout the SAC except on the higher ground. Extensive patches occur at on the eastern and southern slopes. A summary of the mapping methodology is presented in the uplands supporting document
Ecosystem function: soil nutrients	Soil pH and appropriate nutrient levels at a representative number of monitoring stops	Maintain soil nutrient status within natural range	See the uplands supporting document for further details
Community diversity	Abundance of variety of vegetation communities	Maintain variety of vegetation communities, subject to natural processes	Perrin et al. (2014) recorded five different wet heath communities within this SAC. Data on the abundance of these communities is reproduced in the uplands supporting document. Further information on these communities is presented in Perrin et al. (2014)
Vegetation composition: cross-leaved heath	Occurrence within 20m of a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Presence of cross-leaved heath ( <i>Erica tetralix</i> ) near each monitoring stop	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: positive indicator species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of positive indicator species at least 50%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of positive indicator species for this habitat is presented in Perrin et al. (2014). Further details can be found in the uplands supporting document
Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Total cover of <i>Cladonia</i> and <i>Sphagnum</i> species, <i>Racomitrium lanuginosum</i> and pleurocarpous mosses at least 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: ericoid species and crowberry	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of ericoid species and crowberry ( <i>Empetrum nigrum</i> ) at least 15%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: dwarf shrub species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of dwarf shrubs less than 75%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Total cover of negative indicator species less than 1%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of negative indicator species is given in Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: non-native species	Percentage cover at, and in local vicinity of, a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of non-native species less than 1%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details. <i>Campylopus introflexus</i> was recorded within this habitat by Roche et al. (2014) and forming extensive carpets. A small population of <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> was recorded from this habitat by Roche et al. (2014)

Vegetation composition: native trees and shrubs	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Cover of scattered native trees and shrubs less than 20%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: bracken	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Cover of bracken ( <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> ) less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: soft rush	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Cover of soft rush ( <i>Juncus effusus</i> ) less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: <i>Sphagnum</i> condition	Condition at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Less than 10% of the <i>Sphagnum</i> cover is crushed, broken and/or pulled up	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: signs of browsing	Percentage of shoots browsed at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Less than 33% collectively of the last complete growing season's shoots of ericoids, crowberry ( <i>Empetrum nigrum</i> ) and bog-myrtle ( <i>Myrica gale</i> ) showing signs of browsing	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: burning	Occurrence in local vicinity of a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	No signs of burning in sensitive areas, into the moss, liverwort or lichen layer or exposure of peat surface due to burning	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of sensitive areas is presented in Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Physical structure: disturbed bare ground	Percentage cover at, and in local vicinity of, a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of disturbed bare ground less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Physical structure: drainage	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Area showing signs of drainage from heavy trampling, tracking or ditches less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Indicators of local distinctiveness	Occurrence and population size	No decline in distribution or population sizes of rare, threatened or scarce species associated with the habitat and no decline in status of hepatic mats associated with this habitat	Roche et al. (2014) compiled and mapped existing rare and notable plant records for the SAC and added any new records collected during the NSUH survey. <i>Cladonia rangiferina</i> has been recorded from within the habitat. This species is listed on a preparatory list of rare and threatened lichens prepared by D. McFerran, National Museums Northern Ireland. This and any new records should be considered within this attribute. Hepatic mats of the <i>Calluna vulgaris-Herbertus aduncus</i> community were recorded within this habitat by Roche et al. (2014). No assessment of the conservation status of this community has been conducted but proposals for such an assessment are presented in Barron and Perrin (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details



## Conservation Objectives for : Corraun Plateau SAC [000485]

### 4030 European dry heaths

To restore the favourable conservation condition of European dry heaths in Corraun Plateau 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	Corraun Plateau SAC was surveyed as part of the National Survey of Upland Habitats (NSUH; see Roche et al., 2014 & Perrin et al., 2014). The total current area of dry heath in the SAC stated by Roche et al. (2014) is 207.9ha. It covers 5.35% of the SAC. Roche et al. (2014) report no significant losses of area since 1995. A summary of the mapping methodology is presented in the uplands supporting document
Habitat distribution	Occurrence	No decline from current habitat distribution, subject to natural processes. See map 4	Dry heath was recorded by Roche et al. (2014) throughout the SAC, but was most abundant on the northern slopes of the SAC. A summary of the mapping methodology is presented in the uplands supporting document
Ecosystem function: soil nutrients	Soil pH and appropriate nutrient levels at a representative number of monitoring stops	Maintain soil nutrient status within natural range	See the uplands supporting document for further details
Community diversity	Abundance of variety of vegetation communities	Maintain variety of vegetation communities, subject to natural processes	Roche et al. (2014) recorded three different dry heath communities within this SAC. Data on the abundance of these communities is reproduced in the uplands supporting document. Further information on these communities is presented in Perrin et al. (2014)
Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes	Number of species at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Number of bryophyte or non-crustose lichen species present at each monitoring stop is at least three, excluding <i>Campylopus</i> and <i>Polytrichum</i> mosses	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: positive indicator species	Number of species at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Number of positive indicator species present at each monitoring stop is at least two	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of positive indicator species for this habitat, which is composed of dwarf shrubs, is presented in Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: positive indicator species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of positive indicator species at least 50% for siliceous dry heath and 50-75% for calcareous dry heath	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of positive indicator species for this habitat, which is composed of dwarf shrubs, is presented in Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: dwarf shrub composition	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Proportion of dwarf shrub cover composed collectively of bog-myrtle ( <i>Myrica gale</i> ), creeping willow ( <i>Salix repens</i> ) and western gorse ( <i>Ulex gallii</i> ) is less than 50%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Total cover of negative indicator species less than 1%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of negative indicator species is given in Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: non-native species	Percentage cover at, and in local vicinity of, a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of non-native species less than 1%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details. <i>Campylopus introflexus</i> was recorded within this habitat by Roche et al. (2014) but did not form extensive carpets
Vegetation structure: native trees and shrubs	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Cover of scattered native trees and shrubs less than 20%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details

Vegetation composition: bracken	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Cover of bracken ( <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> ) less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: soft rush	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Cover of soft rush ( <i>Juncus effusus</i> ) less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: senescent ling	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Senescent proportion of ling ( <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> ) cover less than 50%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: signs of browsing	Percentage of shoots browsed at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Less than 33% collectively of the last complete growing season's shoots of ericoids showing signs of browsing	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: burning	Occurrence in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	No signs of burning in sensitive areas	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of sensitive areas is presented in Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: growth phases of ling	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Outside sensitive areas, all growth phases of ling ( <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> ) should occur throughout, with at least 10% of cover in the mature phase	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Physical structure: disturbed bare ground	Percentage cover at, and in local vicinity of, a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of disturbed bare ground less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Indicators of local distinctiveness	Occurrence and population size	No decline in distribution or population sizes of rare, threatened or scarce species associated with the habitat and no decline in status of hepatic mats associated with this habitat	Roche et al. (2014) compiled and mapped existing rare and notable plant records for the SAC and added any new records collected during the NSUH survey. No relevant species were recorded in this habitat, however, new records should be considered within this attribute. Hepatic mats of the <i>Calluna vulgaris-Herbertus aduncus</i> community were recorded within this habitat by Roche et al. (2014). No assessment of the conservation status of this community has been conducted but proposals for such an assessment are presented in Barron and Perrin (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details

## Conservation Objectives for : Corraun Plateau SAC [000485]

### 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths

To restore the favourable conservation condition of Alpine and Boreal heaths in Corraun Plateau 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	Corraun Plateau SAC was surveyed as part of the National Survey of Upland Habitats (NSUH; see Roche et al., 2014 & Perrin et al., 2014). The total current area of Alpine and Boreal heath in the SAC stated by Roche et al. (2014) is 278.3ha. It covers 7.16% of the SAC. Roche et al. (2014) report obvious losses of habitat since 1995 of approximately 0.45ha. A summary of the mapping methodology is presented in the uplands supporting document
Habitat distribution	Occurrence	No decline from current distribution, subject to natural processes. See map 5	Alpine and Boreal heath was recorded by Roche et al. (2014) on the high ground through the centre of the SAC, but was also recorded at lower elevations on the southern slopes. A summary of the mapping methodology is presented in the uplands supporting document
Ecosystem function: soil nutrients	Soil pH and appropriate nutrient levels at a representative number of monitoring stops	Maintain soil nutrient status within natural range	See the uplands supporting document for further details
Community diversity	Abundance of variety of vegetation communities	Maintain variety of vegetation communities, subject to natural processes	Roche et al. (2014) recorded three different Alpine and Boreal heath communities within this SAC. Data on the abundance of these communities is reproduced in the uplands supporting document. Further information on these communities is presented in Perrin et al. (2014)
Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes	Number of species at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Number of bryophyte or non-crustose lichen species present at each monitoring stop is at least three	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: positive indicator species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of positive indicator species at least 66%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of positive indicator species for this habitat is presented in Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: dwarf-shrub species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of dwarf-shrub species at least 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Total cover of negative indicator species less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of negative indicator species is given in Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: non-native species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of non-native species less than 1%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details. No non-native species were recorded within this habitat by Roche et al. (2014)
Vegetation structure: signs of grazing	Percentage of leaves browsed at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Less than 10% collectively of the live leaves of specific graminoids showing signs of grazing	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details including the list of specific graminoids
Vegetation structure: signs of browsing	Percentage of shoots browsed at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Less than 33% collectively of the last complete growing season's shoots of ericoids and crowberry ( <i>Empetrum nigrum</i> ) showing signs of browsing	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: burning	Occurrence in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	No signs of burning within the habitat	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details

Physical structure: disturbed bare ground	Percentage cover at, and in local vicinity of, a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of disturbed bare ground less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Indicators of local distinctiveness	Occurrence and population size	No decline in distribution or population sizes of rare, threatened or scarce species associated with the habitat and no decline in status of hepatic mats associated with this habitat	Roche et al. (2014) compiled and mapped existing rare and notable plant records for the SAC and added any new records collected during the NSUH survey. <i>Cladonia rangiferina</i> has been recorded from within the habitat. This species is listed on a preparatory list of rare and threatened lichens prepared by D. McFerran, National Museums Northern Ireland. This and any new records should be considered within this attribute. Hepatic mats of the <i>Calluna vulgaris-Herbertus aduncus</i> community were recorded within this habitat by Roche et al. (2014). No assessment of the conservation status of this community has been conducted but proposals for such an assessment are presented in Barron and Perrin (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details

## Conservation Objectives for : Corraun Plateau SAC [000485]

### 5130 Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands

To restore the favourable conservation condition of *Juniperus communis* formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands in Corraun Plateau 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	<i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands occurs in close association with heath habitats, particularly Alpine and Boreal heaths (4060). Cooper et al. (2012) recorded the habitat on the southern facing slopes of the central section of the SAC
Habitat distribution	Occurrence	No decline from current distribution, subject to natural processes. See map 6 for survey location	See notes for area above
Juniper population size	Number per formation	At least 50 plants per formation	To classify as a juniper formation, at least 50 plants should be present (Cooper et al., 2012). At least 500 plants were recorded by Cooper et al. (2012)
Vegetation composition: typical species	Number per formation	At least 50% of the listed positive indicator species for the relevant vegetation group present	Cooper et al. (2012) lists positive indicator species for five vegetation groups. The formation described at this SAC by Cooper et al. (2012) falls into vegetation group 4 ( <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> / <i>Erica cinerea</i> group). See Cooper et al. (2012) for positive indicator species
Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Occurrence per formation	Negative indicator species, particularly non-native invasive species, absent or under control	Negative indicator species listed by Cooper et al. (2012)
Vegetation structure: cone-bearing plants	Percentage per formation	At least 10% of juniper plants are bearing cones	Attribute and target based on Cooper et al. (2012)
Vegetation structure: seedling recruitment	Percentage per formation	At least 10% of juniper plants are seedlings	Attribute and target based on Cooper et al. (2012)
Vegetation structure: dead juniper	Percentage per formation	Mean percentage of each juniper plant dead less than 10%	Attribute and target based on Cooper et al. (2012)

## Conservation Objectives for : Corraun Plateau SAC [000485]

### 8110 Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (*Androsacetalia alpinae* and *Galeopsietalia ladani*)

To restore the favourable conservation condition of Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (*Androsacetalia alpinae* and *Galeopsietalia ladani*) in Corraun Plateau 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	Corraun Plateau SAC was surveyed as part of the National Survey of Upland Habitats (NSUH; see Roche et al., 2014 & Perrin et al., 2014). The total current area of siliceous scree in the SAC stated by Roche et al. (2014) is 30.3ha. This covers 0.78% of the SAC. Roche et al. (2014) report no significant losses of area since 1995. A summary of the mapping methodology is presented in the uplands supporting document
Habitat distribution	Occurrence	No decline from current distribution, subject to natural processes. See map 7	Siliceous scree was recorded by Roche et al. (2014) on the northern slopes of the SAC. A summary of the mapping methodology is presented in the uplands supporting document
Ecosystem function: soil nutrients	Soil pH and appropriate nutrient levels at a representative number of monitoring stops	Maintain soil nutrient status within natural range	See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: lichens and bryophytes	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Cover of bryophytes and non-crustose lichen species at least 5%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Proportion of vegetation composed of negative indicator species less than 1%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of negative indicator species is given in Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: non-native species	Percentage cover at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Proportion of vegetation composed of non-native species less than 1%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details. No non-native species were recorded within this habitat by Roche et al. (2014)
Vegetation composition: positive indicator species	Number of species in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Number of positive indicator species present in vicinity of each monitoring stop in block scree is at least one	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of positive indicator species for this habitat is presented in Perrin et al. (2014) and is the same as for 8220 Siliceous rocky slopes. Further details can be found in the uplands supporting document
Vegetation composition: grass species and dwarf shrubs	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Total cover of grass species and dwarf shrubs less than 20%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: bracken, native trees and scrub	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Total cover of bracken ( <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> ), native trees and scrub less than 25%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: grazing and browsing	Percentage of leaves/shoots grazed/browsed at a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Live leaves of forbs and shoots of dwarf shrubs showing signs of grazing or browsing collectively less than 50%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Physical structure: disturbance	Percentage cover at, and in local vicinity of, a representative number of 2m x 2m monitoring stops	Ground disturbed by human and animal paths, scree running, vehicles less than 10%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details

Indicators of local distinctiveness	Occurrence and population size	No decline in distribution or population sizes of rare, threatened or scarce species associated with the habitat and no decline in status of hepatic mats associated with this habitat	Roche et al. (2014) compiled and mapped existing rare and notable plant records for the SAC and added any new records collected during the NSUH survey. No relevant species were recorded in this habitat, however, new records should be considered within this attribute. Hepatic mats of the <i>Calluna vulgaris-Herbertus aduncus</i> community were recorded within this habitat by Roche et al. (2014). No assessment of the conservation status of this community has been conducted but proposals for such an assessment are presented in Barron and Perrin (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
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## Conservation Objectives for : Corraun Plateau SAC [000485]

### 8220 Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation

**To restore the favourable conservation condition of Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation in Corraun Plateau 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	Corraun Plateau SAC was surveyed as part of the National Survey of Upland Habitats (NSUH; see Roche et al., 2014 & Perrin et al., 2014). The total current area of siliceous rocky slopes in the SAC stated by Roche et al. (2014) is 15.0ha. This covers 0.39% of the SAC. A summary of the mapping methodology is presented in the uplands supporting document
Habitat distribution	Occurrence	No decline from current distribution, subject to natural processes. See map 8	Siliceous rocky slopes were recorded by Roche et al. (2014) with patches on the northern slopes and also in the south. A summary of the mapping methodology is presented in the uplands supporting document
Ecosystem function: soil nutrients	Soil pH and appropriate nutrient levels at a representative number of monitoring stops	Maintain soil nutrient status within natural range	See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: positive indicator species	Number of species at a representative number of monitoring stops	Number of positive indicator species present in vicinity of each monitoring stop is at least one	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). The list of positive indicator species for this habitat is presented in Perrin et al. (2014). Further details can be found in the uplands supporting document
Vegetation composition: non-native species	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Proportion of vegetation composed of non-native species less than 1%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details. No non-native species were recorded within this habitat by Roche et al. (2014)
Vegetation composition: bracken, native trees and scrub	Percentage cover in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Total cover of bracken ( <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> ), native trees and scrub less than 25%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: grazing and browsing	Percentage of leaves/shoots grazed/browsed in local vicinity of a representative number of monitoring stops	Live leaves of forbs and shoots of dwarf shrubs showing signs of grazing or browsing collectively less than 50%	Based on Perrin et al. (2014). See the uplands supporting document for further details
Indicators of local distinctiveness	Occurrence and population size	No decline in distribution or population sizes of rare, threatened or scarce species associated with the habitat and no decline in status of hepatic mats associated with this habitat	Roche et al. (2014) compiled and mapped existing rare and notable plant records for the SAC and added any new records collected during the NSUH survey. No relevant species were recorded in this habitat, however, new records should be considered within this attribute. See the uplands supporting document for further details