



Scientific name	<i>Eriocaulon aquaticum</i> – <i>Lobelia dortmanna</i> aquatic community
Common name	Pipewort – Water Lobelia aquatic community
Community code	FW1B

Vegetation

Eriocaulon aquaticum and *Lobelia dortmanna*, with their emergent flowering shoots, are constant species in this aquatic community and the key indicators. *Juncus bulbosus* is also a constant, typically growing submerged. Alongside this may be found *Littorella uniflora*, which is frequent here. The occasional plants, *Phragmites australis*, *Cladium mariscus*, *Ranunculus flammula* and *Eleocharis multicaulis* may form a swamp-like component.

Ecology

This community is typical of the very nutrient-poor, clear shallow waters of oligotrophic lakes on acid stony substrates,

Sub-communities

No sub-communities are currently described.

Similar communities

From the closely-related other communities in this group, FW1B differs chiefly by the abundance and frequency of *Eriocaulon aquaticum* and *Lobelia dortmanna*.

Records and distribution

Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	110
Transitional:	2
Total:	112

Number of records (mapped)

2001-2015:	34
1986-2000:	7
1971-1985:	25
Pre-1971:	8
Total:	74

Number of hectads (most recent records)

2001-2015:	4
1986-2000:	4
1971-1985:	0
Pre-1971:	4
Total:	12

Number of hectads (all mapped records)

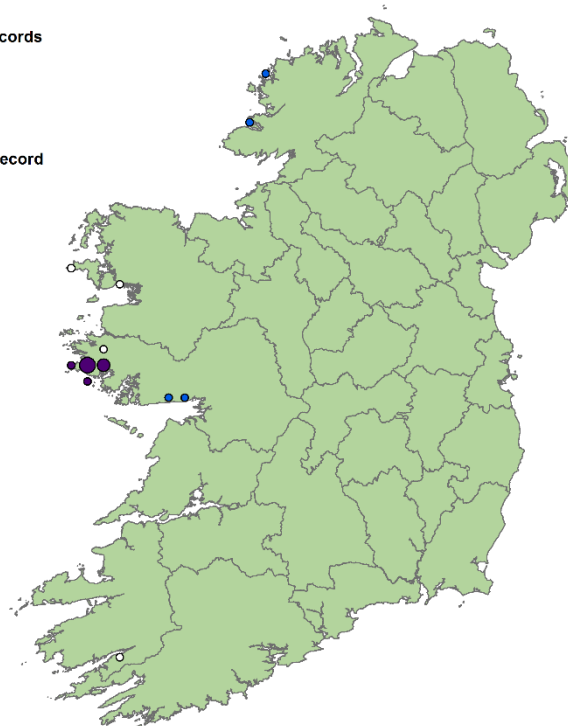
2001-2015:	4
1986-2000:	4
1971-1985:	4
Pre-1971:	5

Number of records

- 1-3
- 4-10
- 11-25
- 26+

Most recent record

- 2001-2015
- 1986-2000
- 1971-1985
- pre-1971



Synoptic table (n = 106)

Species	Frequency	Cover	Species	Frequency	Cover
	(from I-V)	min (med) max		(from I-V)	min (med) max
<i>Eriocaulon aquaticum</i>	V	3-(7)-9	<i>Myriophyllum alterniflorum</i>	I	2-(3)-7
<i>Lobelia dortmanna</i>	V	2-(4)-7	<i>Utricularia intermedia</i>	I	2-(2)-4
<i>Juncus bulbosus</i>	IV	2-(3)-8	<i>Isolepis fluitans</i>	I	2-(2)-4
<i>Littorella uniflora</i>	III	2-(3)-8	<i>Nymphaea alba</i>	I	3-(4)-7
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	II	2-(3)-7	<i>Scorpidium scorpioides</i>	I	2-(2)-5
<i>Cladium mariscus</i>	II	2-(4)-7	<i>Anagallis tenella</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	II	2-(3)-5	<i>Juncus acutiflorus</i>	I	3-(5)-7
<i>Eleocharis multicaulis</i>	II	2-(3)-7	<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	I	3-(3)-7
<i>Apium inundatum</i>	I	2-(3)-7	<i>Carex nigra</i>	I	2-(3)-3
<i>Potamogeton natans</i>	I	2-(3)-7	<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	I	2-(3)-5
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	I	2-(3)-5	<i>Juncus subnodulosus</i>	I	2-(4)-4
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	I	2-(3)-3	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	I	2-(3)-5	<i>Potentilla palustris</i>	I	2-(3)-3
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	I	2-(3)-7	<i>Carex rostrata</i>	I	2-(5)-5
<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	I	+(3)-5	<i>Sparganium angustifolium</i>	I	3-(3)-3
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	I	2-(3)-7	<i>Myrica gale</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i>	I	2-(3)-5	<i>Carex lasiocarpa</i>	I	4-(5)-7
<i>Carex viridula</i>	I	+(3)-5	<i>Carex flacca</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Baldellia ranunculoides</i>	I	2-(2)-3	<i>Sphagnum subsecundum</i> agg.	I	2-(4)-5
<i>Potamogeton polygonifolius</i>	I	2-(3)-3	<i>Sparganium natans</i>	I	2-(2)-3

Affinities

GHI: FL2 Oligotrophic lakes

ZM: LIT-01D Lobelion dortmannae Vanden Berghen 1964

EUNIS: C3.4112 *Lobelia* ponds

NVC: A22a *Littorella uniflora* – *Lobelia dortmanna* community *Littorella uniflora* sub-community (66.8%)

Annex I:3110 Oligotrophic soft water lakes

Proxy environmental data

Light: 6.4 Reaction: 6.5 Wetness: 5.5 Fertility: 2.9 Salinity: 0.1

Conservation

Many examples of this habitat will correspond with EU HD Annex I habitat 3110 Oligotrophic lakes. *Eriocaulon aquaticum* has a distinctly restricted distribution in Ireland.

Management

This community is typically unmanaged. The main threats to the lakes in which it occurs are eutrophication from agriculture and forestry and inflow of suspended organic sediment from degraded peatlands.

Key references

van Groenendael, J., Hochstenbach, S.M.H., van Mansfeld, M., Roozen, A.J.M., Westhoff, V. (1982) The influence of the sea on the vegetation of lakes in southwest Connemara. *Journal of Life Science of the Royal Dublin Society* 3, 221–242.

Scully, A.C., (1989) Ecological studies of the aquatic species, *Eriocaulon aquaticum* (Hill) Druce and *Lobelia dortmanna* L. (M.Sc.). National University of Ireland Galway.

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