

<b>Scientific name</b>	<i>Potamogeton natans</i> – <i>Equisetum fluviatile</i> aquatic community
<b>Common name</b>	Broad-leaved Pondweed – Water Horsetail aquatic community
<b>Community code</b>	FW2G

### Vegetation

*Potamogeton natans* is the only constant of this quite variable aquatic community and is usually a modest dominant. Occasionally found floating beside the pondweed are patches of *Lemna minor* or pads of *Nymphaea alba*. In an emergent element, *Equisetum fluviatile* is frequent while *Phragmites australis*, *Menyanthes trifoliata*, *Hippuris vulgaris*, *Mentha aquatica*, *Eleocharis palustris* and *Apium nodiflorum* occur less often.

### Ecology

This community occurs in mesotrophic, fairly base-rich waters in lakes, lagoons and turloughs, but also in dystrophic pools.

### Sub-communities

No sub-communities are currently described.

### Similar communities

This community is closely related to the FW2I *Nymphaea alba* aquatic community, but can be differentiated on the contrasting frequencies and abundances of *Potamogeton natans* and *Nymphaea alba*.

[Previously, this community was coded as FW3]

### Records and distribution

#### Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	48
Transitional:	4
Total:	52

#### Number of records (mapped)

2001-2020:	10
1986-2000:	21
1971-1985:	18
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	49

#### Number of hectads (by most recent time period)

2001-2020:	4
1986-2000:	10
1971-1985:	1
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	15

#### Number of hectads (records in each time period)

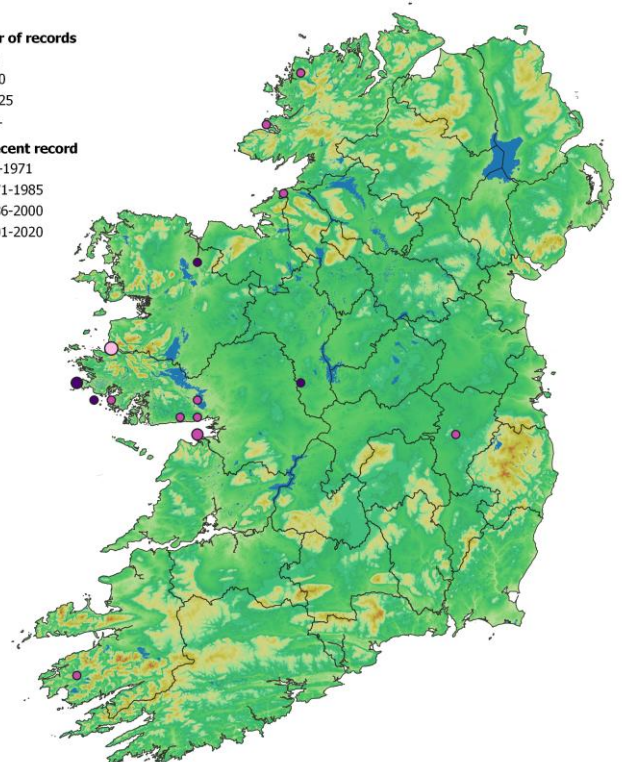
2001-2020:	4
1986-2000:	11
1971-1985:	2
Pre-1971:	0

#### Number of records

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

#### Most recent record

- pre-1971
- 1971-1985
- 1986-2000
- 2001-2020



### Synoptic table (n = 44)

Species	Frequency		Cover min (med) max	Species	Frequency		Cover min (med) max
	(from I-V)				(from I-V)		
<i>Potamogeton natans</i>	V		3-(5)-9	<i>Juncus bulbosus</i>	I		3-(4)-5
<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	III		2-(3)-8	<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i>	I		3-(3)-5
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	II		2-(3)-3	<i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i>	I		+(2)-3
<i>Hippuris vulgaris</i>	II		2-(3)-5	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	I		2-(2)-4
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	II		2-(3)-4	<i>Utricularia australis/vulgaris</i>	I		2-(2)-2
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	II		2-(3)-5	<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i>	I		2-(2)-3
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	II		2-(3)-3	<i>Calliergon giganteum</i>	I		2-(2)-3
<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	II		+(2)-3	<i>Carex nigra</i>	I		2-(2)-2
<i>Lemna minor</i>	II		2-(2)-5	<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	I		2-(2)-2
<i>Nymphaea alba</i>	II		2-(3)-4	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	I		2-(3)-3
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	I		2-(2)-3	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	I		3-(7)-8
<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	I		+(4)-9	<i>Potentilla palustris</i>	I		2-(2)-2
<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	I		2-(3)-3	<i>Berula erecta</i>	I		2-(5)-7
<i>Sparganium natans</i>	I		3-(4)-5	<i>Carex lasiocarpa</i>	I		2-(3)-3
<i>Baldellia ranunculoides</i>	I		2-(2)-3	<i>Drepanocladus aduncus</i>	I		3-(4)-4
<i>Carex rostrata</i>	I		2-(3)-3	<i>Glyceria fluitans</i>	I		2-(3)-3
<i>Persicaria amphibia</i>	I		2-(3)-9	<i>Myriophyllum alterniflorum</i>	I		3-(7)-9
<i>Apium inundatum</i>	I		2-(3)-3	<i>Nuphar lutea</i>	I		2-(2)-2
<i>Lemna trisulca</i>	I		+(2)-2	<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	I		2-(2)-2
<i>Isolepis fluitans</i>	I		3-(3)-3	<i>Utricularia minor</i>	I		5-(5)-5

#### Affinities

GHI: CW1 Lagoons and saline lakes / FL1 Dystrophic lakes / FL4 Mesotrophic lakes / FL6 Turloughs  
 ZM: NB01A Potamogetonion Libbert 1931  
 EUNIS: C1.2414 Broad-leaved pondweed carpets  
 NVC: S4c *Phragmites australis* swamp and reed-beds *Menyanthes trifoliata* sub-community (46.6%), but also  
 A9a *Potamogeton natans* community species-poor sub-community (45.2%)  
 Annex I:1150 Lagoons\* / 3180 Turloughs\*

#### Proxy environmental data

Light: 7.1 Reaction: 6.1 Wetness: 10.7 Fertility: 4.4 Salinity: 0.2

#### Conservation value

This is an aquatic community of medium species richness (species/4 m<sup>2</sup> = 6.9, n = 21). Samples have been recorded from lagoons which correspondent with the priority EU HD Annex I habitat 1150 Lagoons\*. Samples from turlough basins correspond to priority habitat 3180 Turloughs\*.

#### Management

This is an unmanaged community. The main threat would appear to be eutrophication.

#### Key references

Brock, T., Frigge, P., van der Ster, H. (1978) A vegetation study of the pools and surrounding wetlands in the Dooaghry area, Co. Mayo, Republic of Ireland. (unpublished). Laboratory of Geobotany, Catholic University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands.  
 Crawford, I., Bleasdale, A., Conaghan, J. (1998) BIOMAR survey of Irish machair sites 1996. Volume 2: Plant communities. *Irish Wildlife Manuals* No. 4. Dúchas, The Heritage Service, Dublin.  
 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 Sciences - Royal Dublin Society* 3, 221-242.

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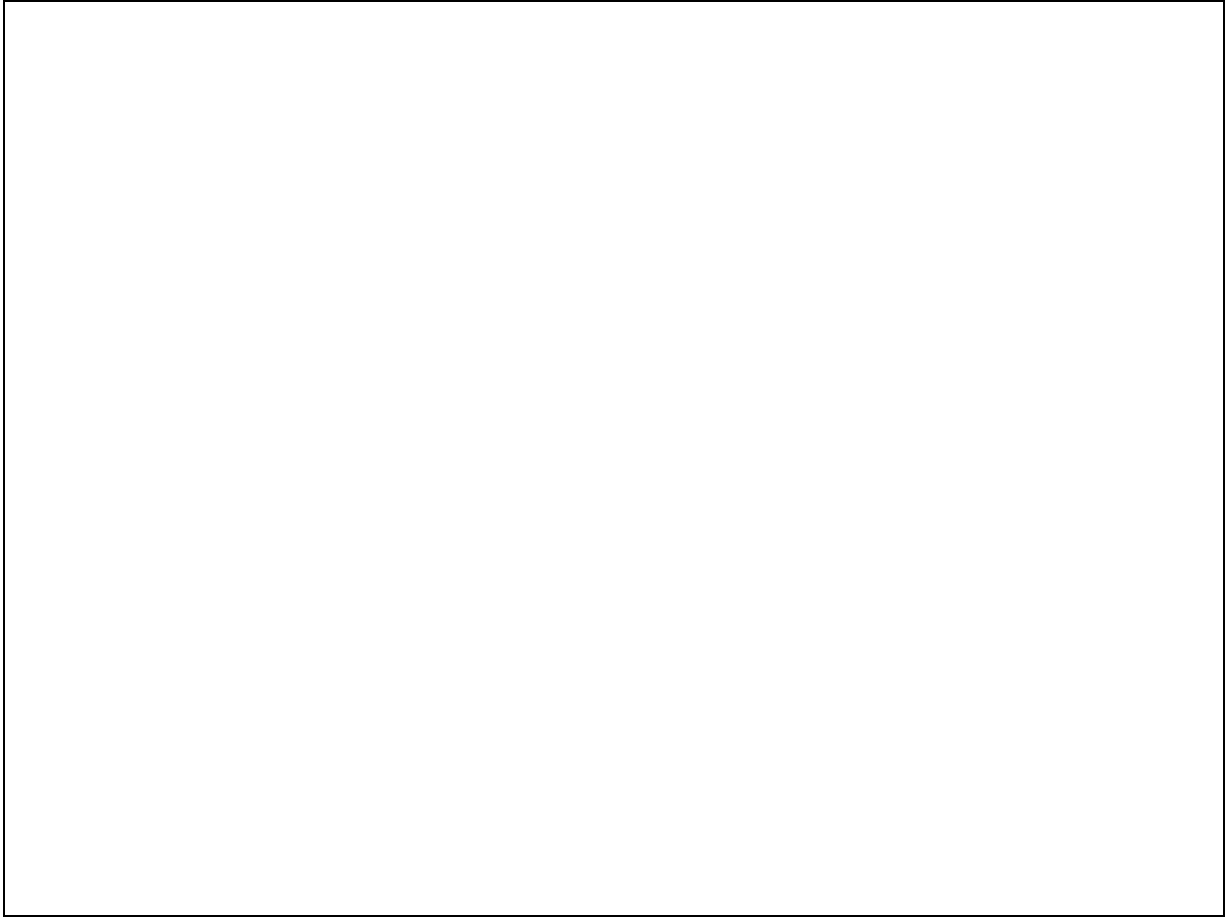


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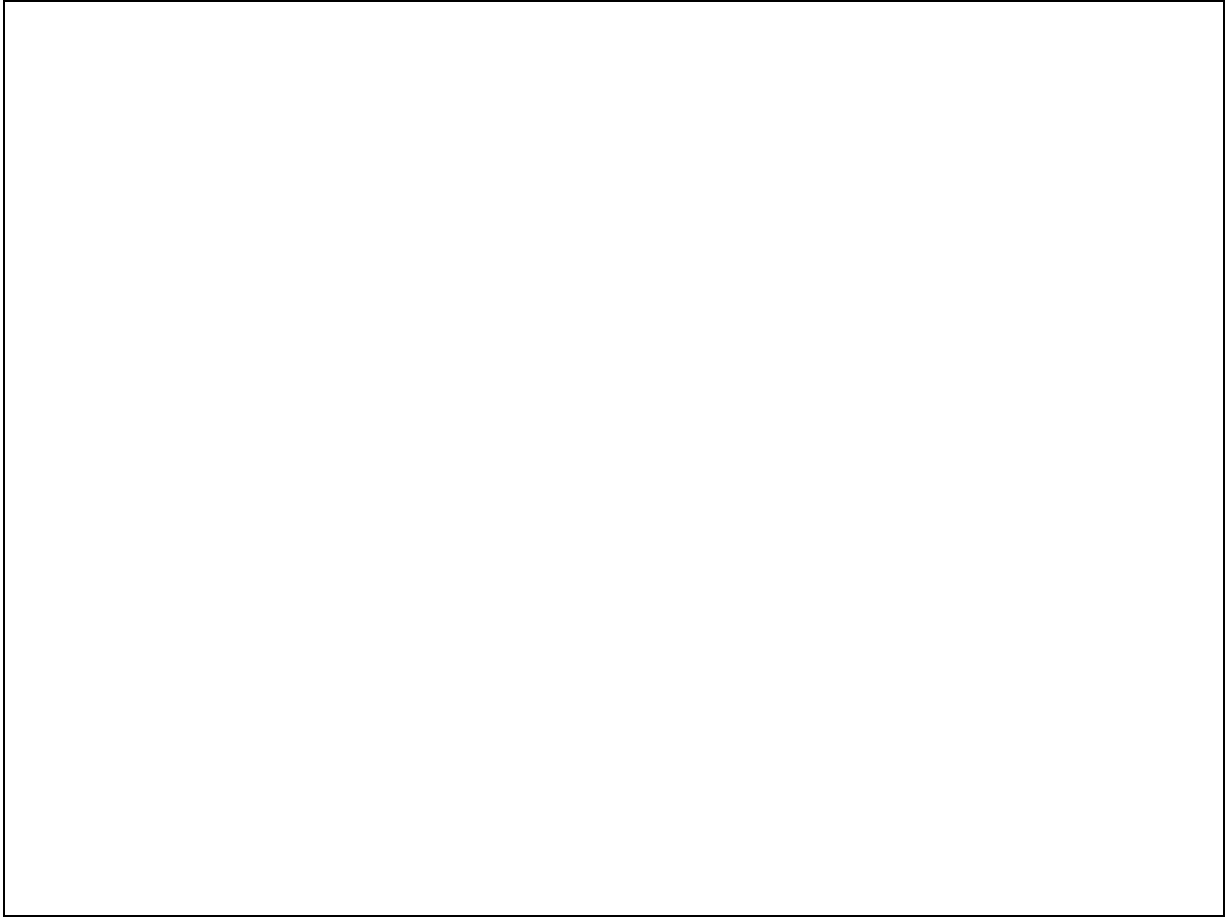


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