

<b>Scientific name</b>	<i>Potamogeton filiformis</i> – <i>Myriophyllum alterniflorum</i> aquatic community
<b>Common name</b>	Slender-leaved Pondweed – Alternate Water-milfoil aquatic community
<b>Community code</b>	FW2H

### Vegetation

This is a simple aquatic community indicated by the presence of the slender-leaved *Potamogeton filiformis*. A frequent companion to the pondweed is the submerged perennial *Myriophyllum alterniflorum*. Other vascular species are scarce, but charophytes have a significant presence, with the species recorded including *Chara aspera*, *Chara contraria*, *Chara curta*, *Chara muscosa*, *Chara vulgaris* and *Tolypella glomerata*.

### Ecology

This community has been recorded from nutrient-poor coastal lakes such as those associated with machair plains. Roden (1999) describes it as occurring on a sand shelf which extends from the seaward shore at a depth of 0.5 to 1.5 m.

### Sub-communities

No sub-communities are currently described.

### Similar communities

This is a distinct community which should be easily recognised.

### Records and distribution

#### Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	7
Transitional:	0
Total:	7

#### Number of records (mapped)

2001-2020:	0
1986-2000:	7
1971-1985:	0
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	7

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

2001-2020:	0
1986-2000:	6
1971-1985:	0
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	6

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

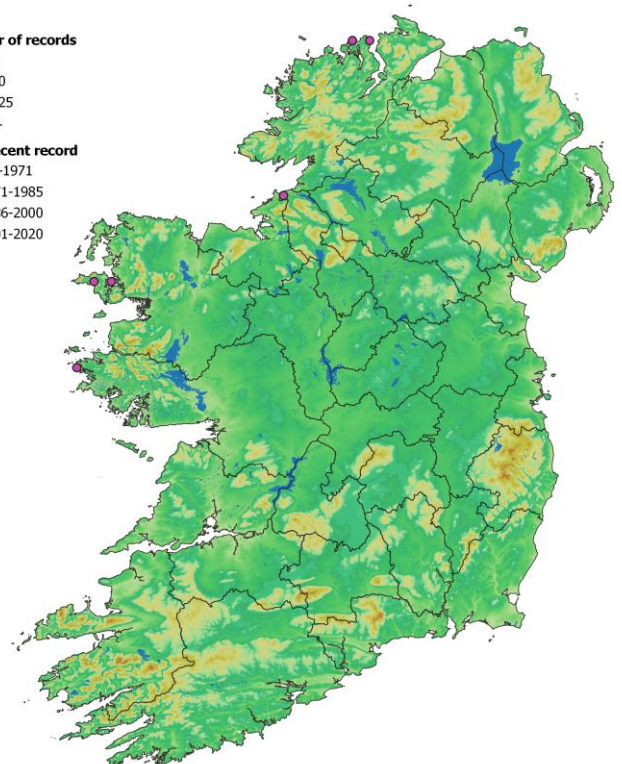
2001-2020:	0
1986-2000:	6
1971-1985:	0
Pre-1971:	0

#### Number of records

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

#### Most recent record

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



### Synoptic table (*n* = 7)

Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max	Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max
<i>Potamogeton filiformis</i>	V	3-(3)-5			
<i>Myriophyllum alterniflorum</i>	III	3-(3)-5			
<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Littorella uniflora</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	I	3-(3)-3			
<i>Potamogeton perfoliatus</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Ranunculus trichophyllus</i>	I	5-(5)-5			

#### Affinities

GHI: FL2 Acid oligotrophic lakes

ZM: NB01A Potamogetonion Libbert 1931

EUNIS: C1.141 *Chara* carpets / C1.232 Small pondweed communities

NVC: A14 *Myriophyllum alterniflorum* community (29.9%), but see accounts of submerged stonewort swards in Rodwell et al. (p. 22, 2000)

Annex I:3140 Hard-water lake habitat

#### Proxy environmental data

Light: 7.0    Reaction: 6.4    Wetness: 12.0    Fertility: 4.6    Salinity: 0.6

#### Conservation value

Where there is an abundance of charophytes, this habitat corresponds with the EU HD Annex I habitat 3140 Hard-water lake habitat. Calculated species diversity is very low (species/4 m<sup>2</sup> = 2.1, *n* = 7) but this does not include charophytes.

#### Management

This is an unmanaged community. The main threat is eutrophication from agricultural sources and wastewater.

#### Key references

Roden, C. (1999) A survey of coastal lakes in counties Galway, Mayo, Sligo and Donegal. (unpublished). The Heritage Council, Kilkenny.

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.

Rodwell, J.S., Dring, J.C., Averis, A.B.G., Proctor, M.C.F., Malloch, A.J.C., Schaminée, J.H.J., Dargie, T.C.D. (2000) Review of coverage of the National Vegetation Classification, JNCC Report 302. JNCC, Peterborough.

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**Synopsis date:** March 2025

**Synopsis author(s):** P.M. Perrin

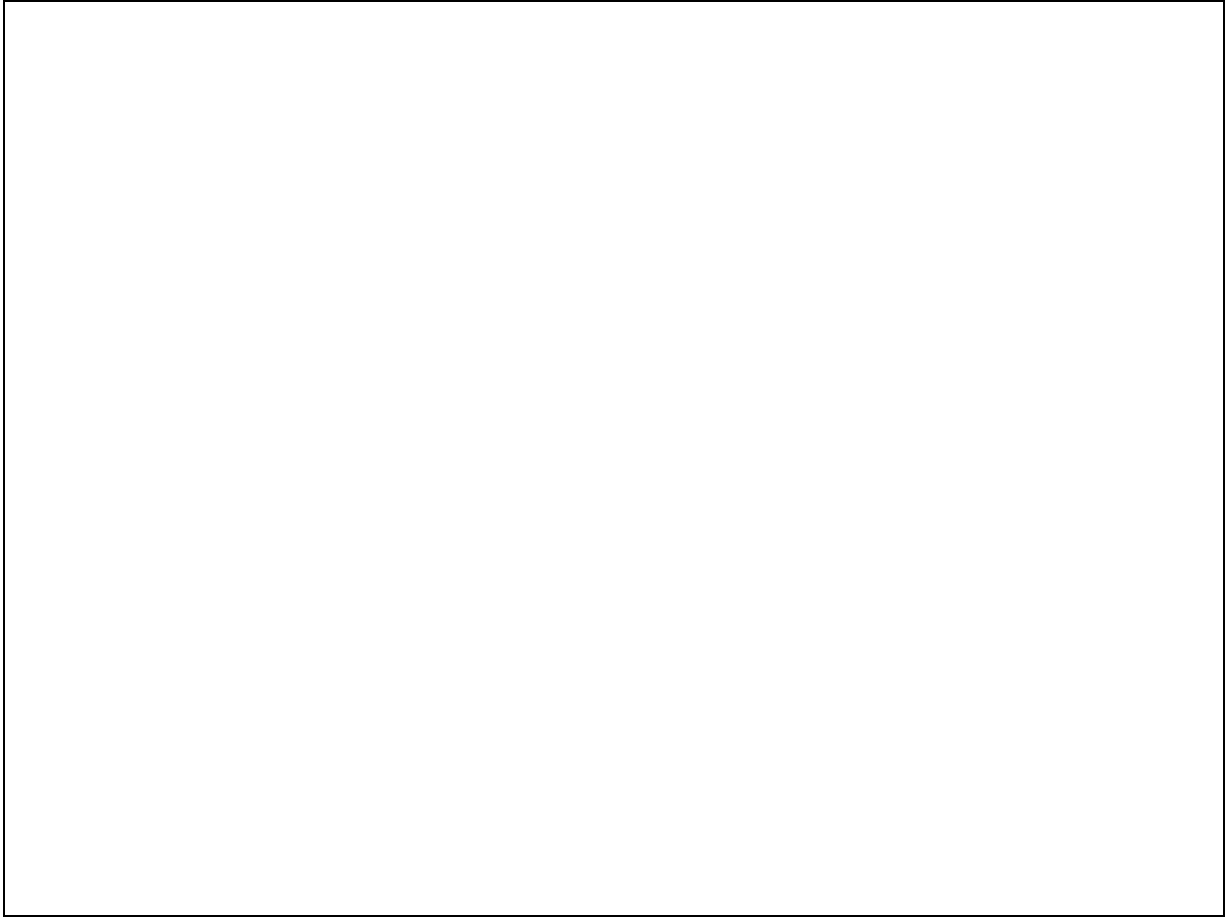


Photo required

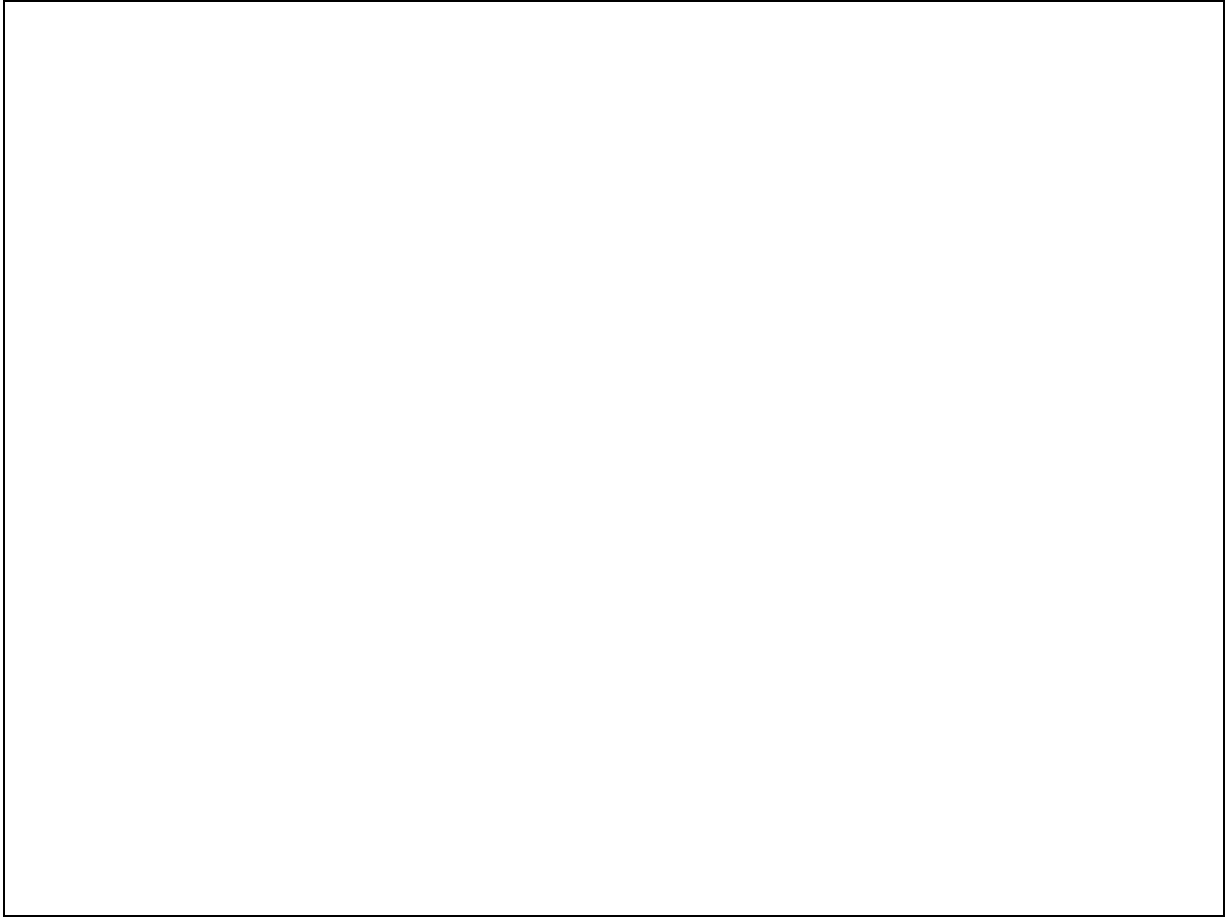


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