

Scientific name	<i>Nuphar lutea</i> aquatic community
Common name	Yellow Water-lily aquatic community
Community code	FW2J

Vegetation

The yellow water-lily, *Nuphar lutea* is the sole constant in this aquatic community and provides a substantial amount of the cover. Growing with it occasionally will be emergents such as *Equisetum fluviatile*, *Phragmites australis*, *Schoenoplectus lacustris*, *Sparganium erectum* or *Typha latifolia*, but these typically don't form dense stands. A range of pondweeds (*Potamogeton* spp.) may also be found here. Stoneworts recorded from this community include *Chara contraria*, *Chara globularis*, *Chara rudis*, *Chara virgata* and *Chara vulgaris*.

Ecology

This community has largely been recorded from mesotrophic lakes in the lowlands, but probably also occurs in slow-moving rivers and canals.

Sub-communities

No sub-communities are currently described.

Similar communities

Nuphar lutea dominates in no other communities.

Records and distribution

Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	20
Transitional:	1
Total:	21

Number of records (mapped)

2001-2020:	1
1986-2000:	14
1971-1985:	5
Pre-1971:	1
Total:	21

Number of hectads (by most recent time period)

2001-2020:	1
1986-2000:	5
1971-1985:	1
Pre-1971:	1
Total:	8

Number of hectads (records in each time period)

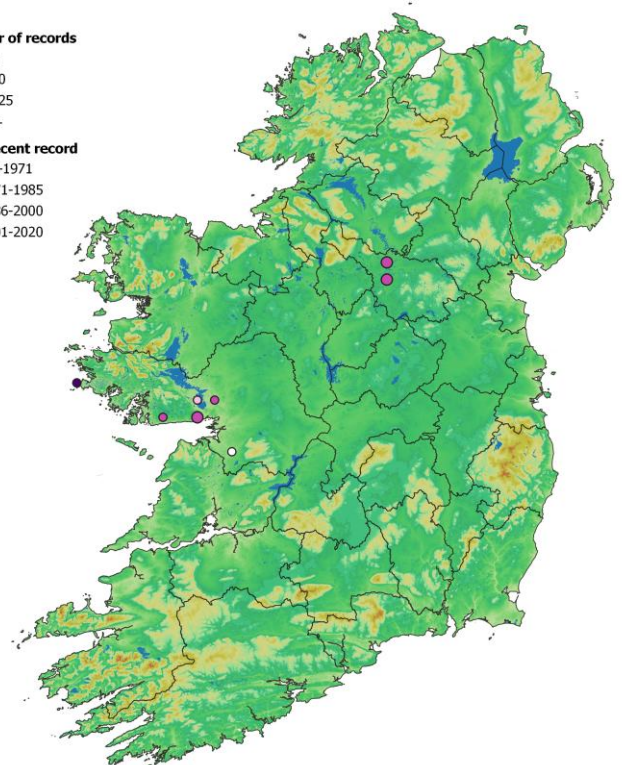
2001-2020:	1
1986-2000:	5
1971-1985:	3
Pre-1971:	1

Number of records

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

Most recent record

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



Synoptic table (n = 20)

Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max	Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max
<i>Nuphar lutea</i>	V	5-(7)-9	<i>Potamogeton berchtoldii</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	II	2-(3)-5	<i>Potamogeton natans</i>	I	4-(4)-4
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	II	2-(3)-5	<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	II	2-(3)-5	<i>Potentilla palustris</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	I	1-(3)-4	<i>Sparganium emersum</i>	I	7-(7)-7
<i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i>	I	3-(3)-3	<i>Utricularia intermedia</i>	I	3-(3)-3
<i>Potamogeton lucens</i>	I	5-(5)-9			
<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	I	2-(3)-9			
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	I	3-(3)-8			
<i>Hippuris vulgaris</i>	I	3-(4)-5			
<i>Lemna minor</i>	I	2-(3)-3			
<i>Potamogeton coloratus</i>	I	3-(5)-7			
<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Carex limosa</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Carex rostrata</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Cladium mariscus</i>	I	3-(3)-3			
<i>Glyceria fluitans</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Nymphaea alba</i>	I	5-(5)-5			
<i>Oenanthe aquatica</i>	I	3-(3)-3			

Affinities

GHI: FL4 Mesotrophic lakes

ZM: NB01B Nymphaeion albae Oberd. 1957)

EUNIS: C1.24111 *Nuphar* beds

NVC: A8a *Nuphar lutea* community species-poor sub-community (71.4%)

Annex I: No significant correspondence

Proxy environmental data

Light: 7.1 Reaction: 6.8 Wetness: 10.9 Fertility: 5.9 Salinity: 0.7

Conservation value

This is species-poor aquatic community (species/4 m² = 3.2, n = 11). *Elodea canadensis* is an invasive non-native species found in this community but it is not considered a major ecological threat and has already colonised much of its suitable niche in Ireland.

Management

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

Key references

Mooney, E. (1991) A phytosociological and palaeoecological study of the wetlands of the Lower Corrib basin, Co. Galway, Ireland. (Ph.D. thesis). National University of Ireland Galway.

Conaghan, J. (1999) The vegetation, ecology and conservation of the Lough Oughter lake system, Co. Cavan. (unpublished). The Heritage Council, Kilkenny.

Synopsis version: V1.1

Synopsis date: March 2025

Synopsis author(s): P.M. Perrin



Photo 1. FW2J *Nuphar lutea* aquatic community, Royal Canal, Dublin (P. Perrin, June 2022)

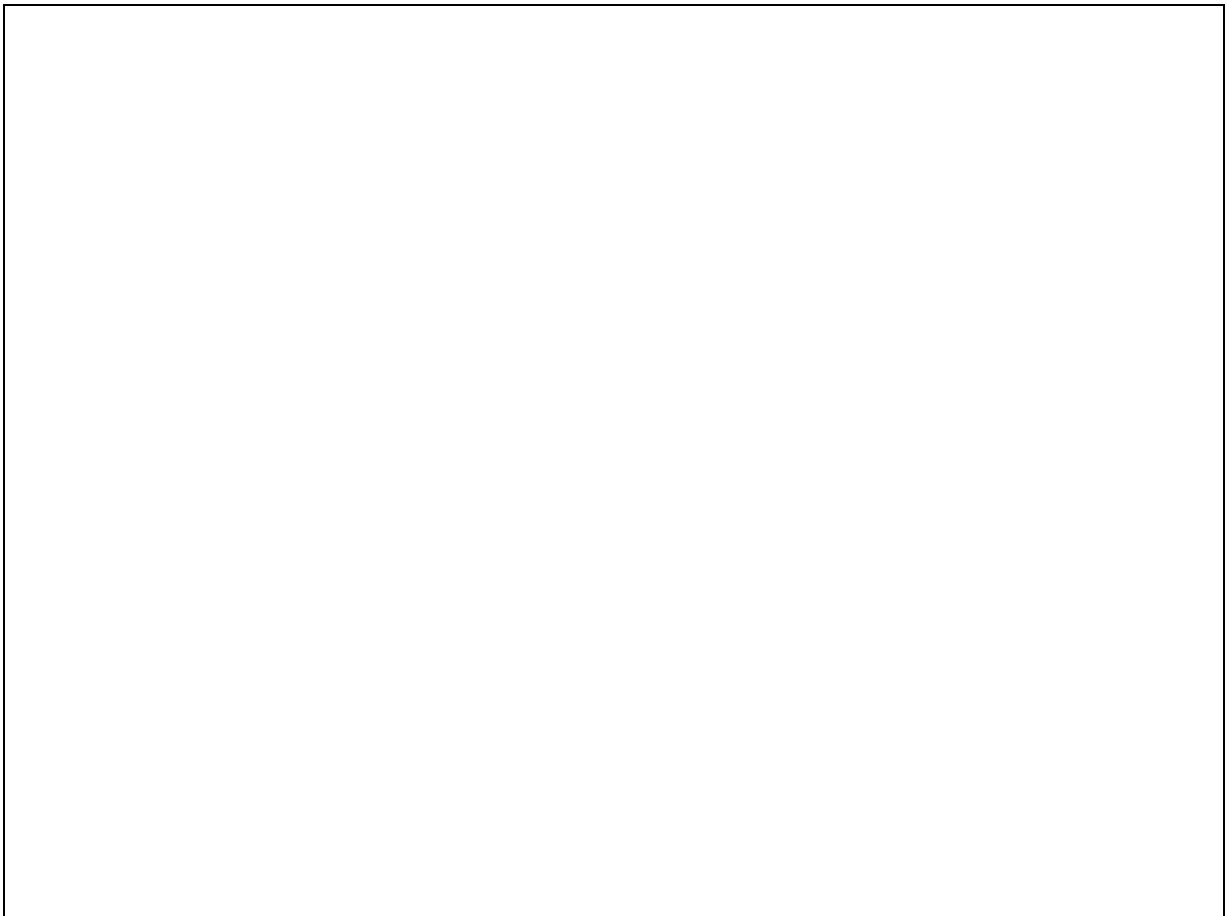


Photo required