

Scientific name	<i>Zannichellia palustris</i> aquatic community
Common name	Horned Pondweed aquatic community
Community code	FW2K

Vegetation

This is a simple, submerged aquatic community characterised by the presence of the perennial *Zannichellia palustris*. Often it is the sole vascular component, but occasionally one can find some pondweed (*Potamogeton berchtoldii*, *Potamogeton crispus*), *Elodea canadensis* or *Myriophyllum spicatum*. *Ruppia* occurs only rarely. Stoneworts recorded from this community include *Chara aspera*, *Chara rudis*, *Chara virgata* and *Chara vulgaris*.

Ecology

This community has largely been recorded from lagoons and mesotrophic lakes.

Sub-communities

No sub-communities are currently described.

Similar communities

Zannichellia palustris can also occur in the SW1A *Ruppia maritima/cirrhosa* lagoon community, but there it will be subordinate to the *Ruppia*.

Records and distribution

Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	10
Transitional:	1
Total:	11

Number of records (mapped)

2001-2020:	0
1986-2000:	8
1971-1985:	3
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	11

Number of hectads (by most recent time period)

2001-2020:	0
1986-2000:	4
1971-1985:	2
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	6

Number of hectads (records in each time period)

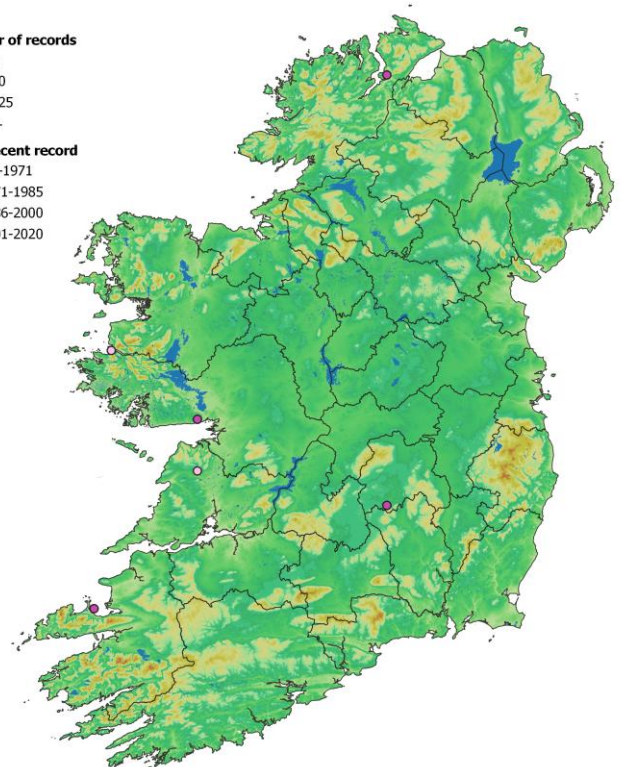
2001-2020:	0
1986-2000:	4
1971-1985:	2
Pre-1971:	0

Number of records

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

Most recent record

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



Synoptic table (*n* = 8)

Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max	Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max
<i>Zannichellia palustris</i>	V	3-(4)-9			
<i>Potamogeton berchtoldii</i>	II	3-(5)-5			
<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	II	2-(3)-3			
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	II	2-(3)-4			
<i>Groenlandia densa</i>	I	5-(5)-5			
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Ruppia maritima/cirrhosa</i>	I	4-(4)-4			

Affinities

GHI: CW1 Lagoons and saline lakes / FL4 Mesotrophic lakes
 ZM: NB03A Zannichellion pedicellatae Schaminée, Lanjouw et Schipper ex Passarge 1996
 EUNIS: C1.232 Small pondweed communities
 NVC: A8b *Nuphar lutea* community *Callitriche stagnalis-Zannichellia palustris* sub-community (32.7%)
 Annex I:1150 Lagoons*

Proxy environmental data

Light: 6.9 Reaction: 7.4 Wetness: 11.7 Fertility: 6.5 Salinity: 1.6

Conservation value

Samples have been recorded from lagoons which correspondent with the priority EU HD Annex I habitat 1150 Lagoons*. *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. Vascular plant diversity is low.

Management

This community is typically unmanaged but is threatened by impacts which affect lagoons and lakes, including drainage for purposes of agricultural reclamation, natural siltation and eutrophication.

Key references

Hatch, P. (1996) A survey of the vegetation of Irish coastal lagoons. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin.
 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.

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Synopsis author(s): P.M. Perrin

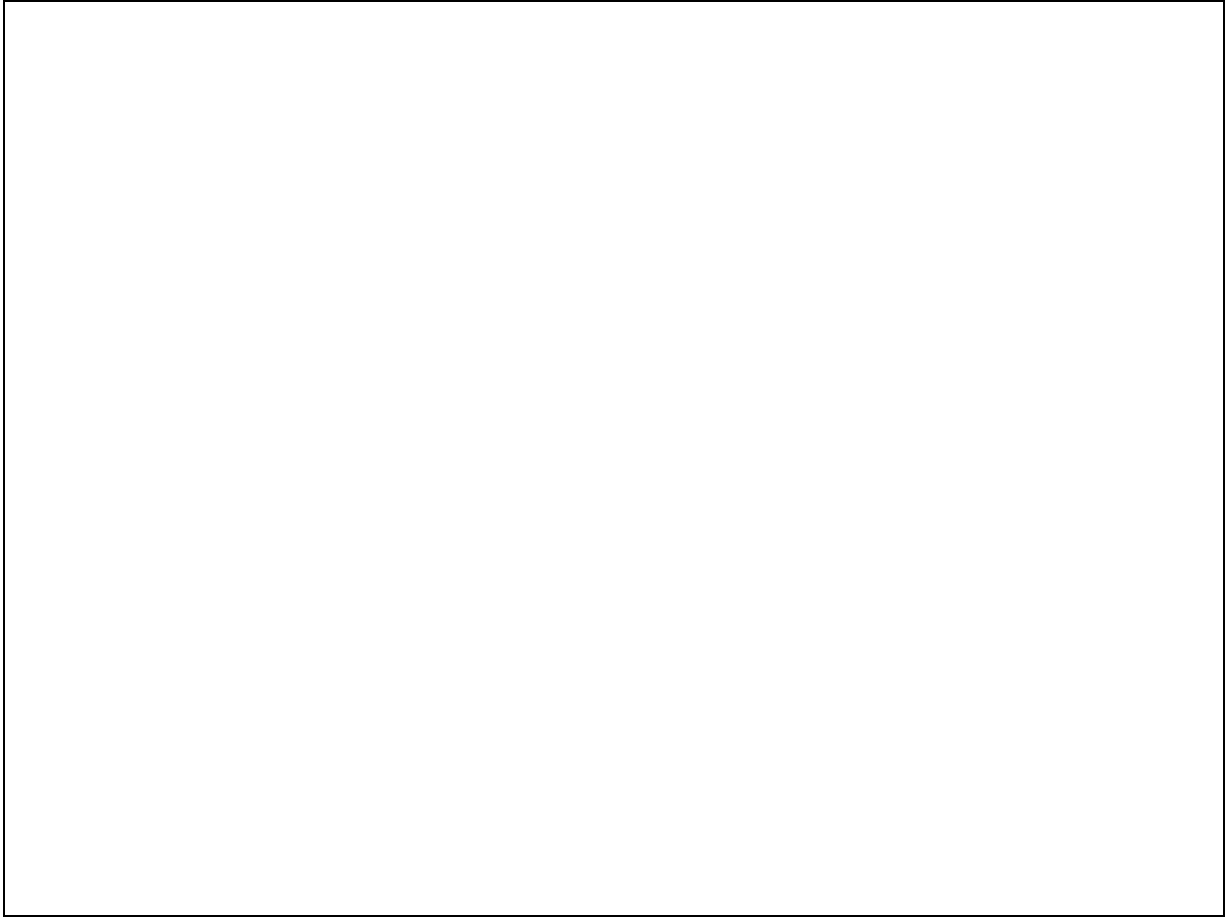


Photo required

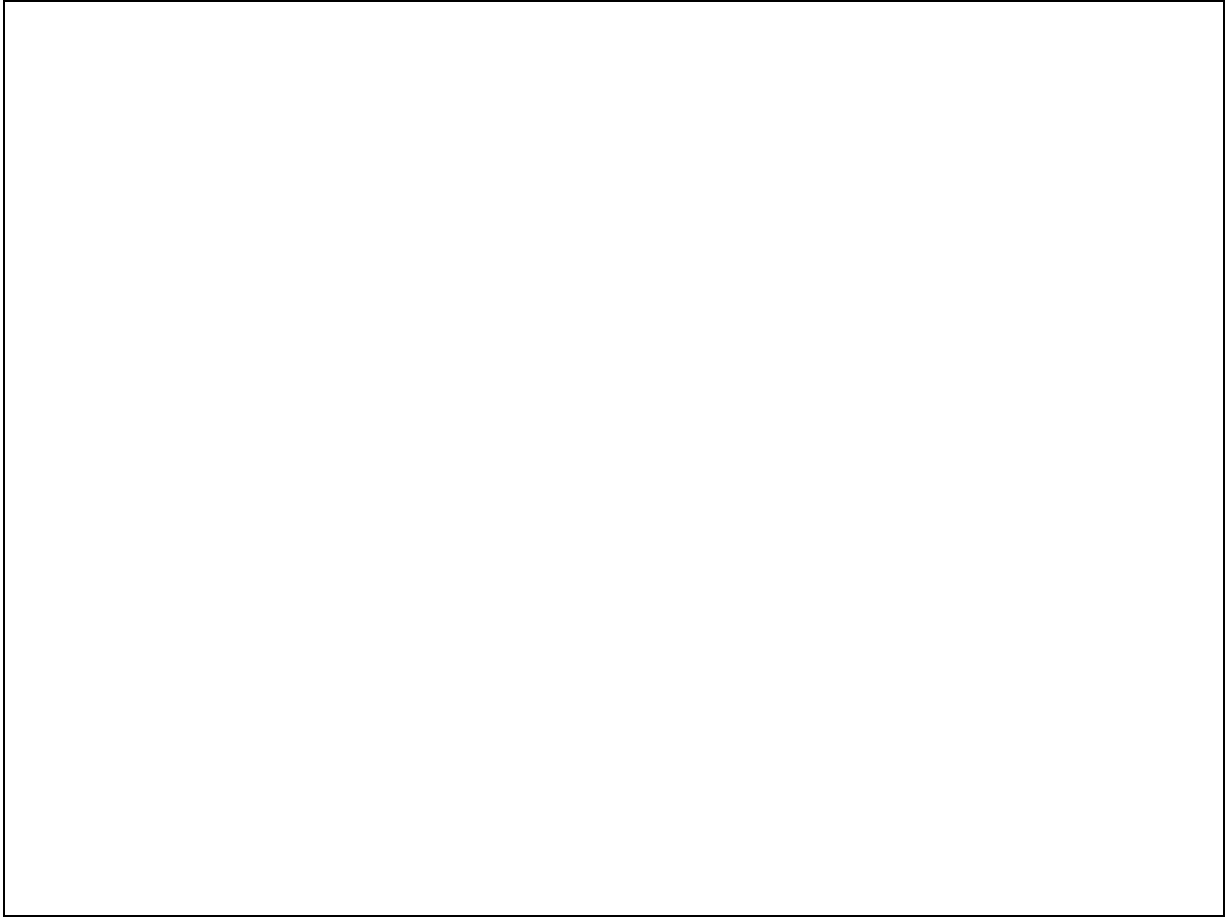


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