

# **Ballateare Meadow Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI)**

## **Designation Documents**

Please note:

- Notification as an ASSI confers no public right of entry to any land without the permission of the landowner.
- The citations and lists of operations requiring the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture's consent may be subject to minor editorial changes and should not be assumed to be an exact facsimile of the original legal document.

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**Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture**  
*Rheynn Chymmltaght, Bee as Eirinys*

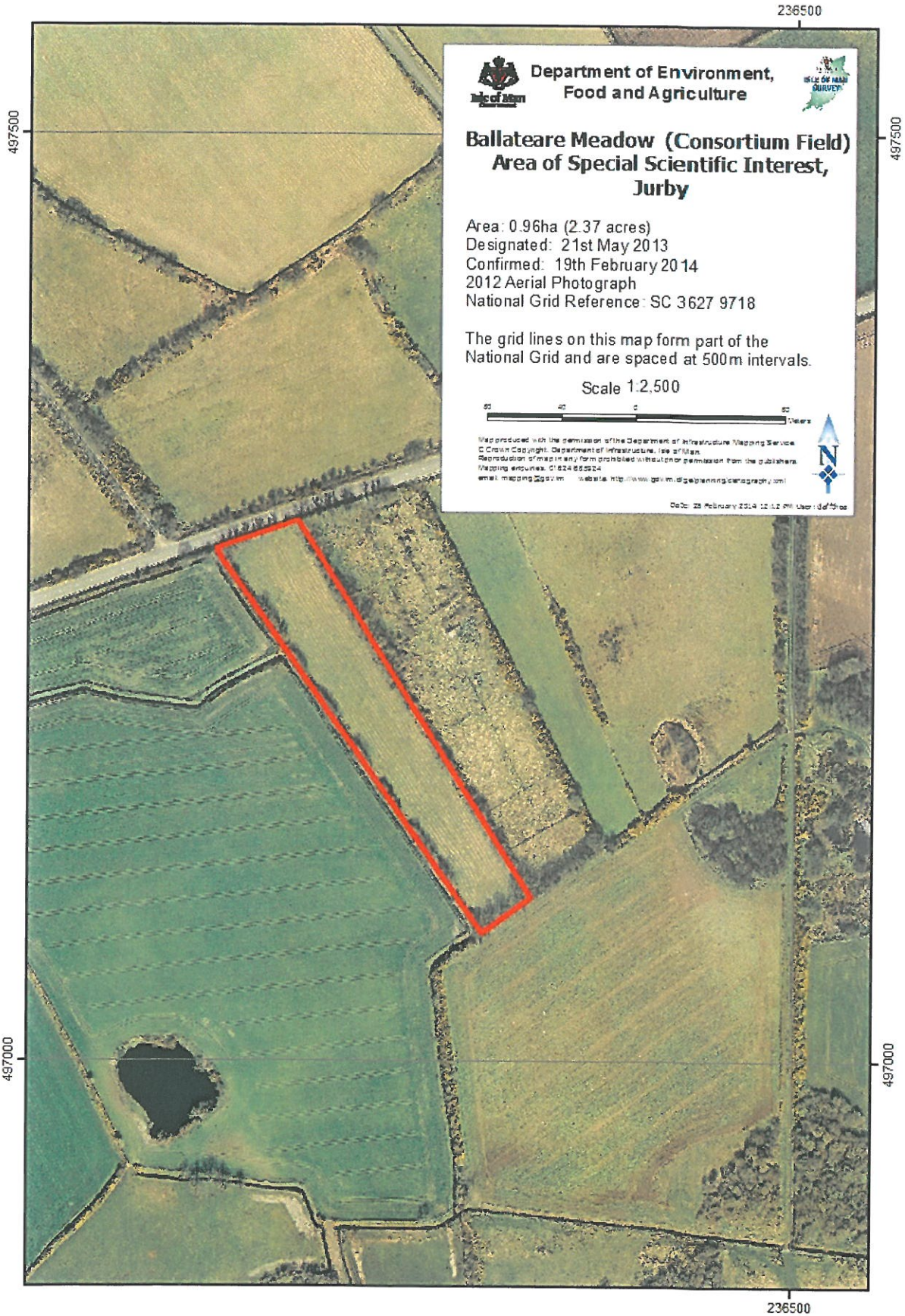
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[www.gov.im](http://www.gov.im)

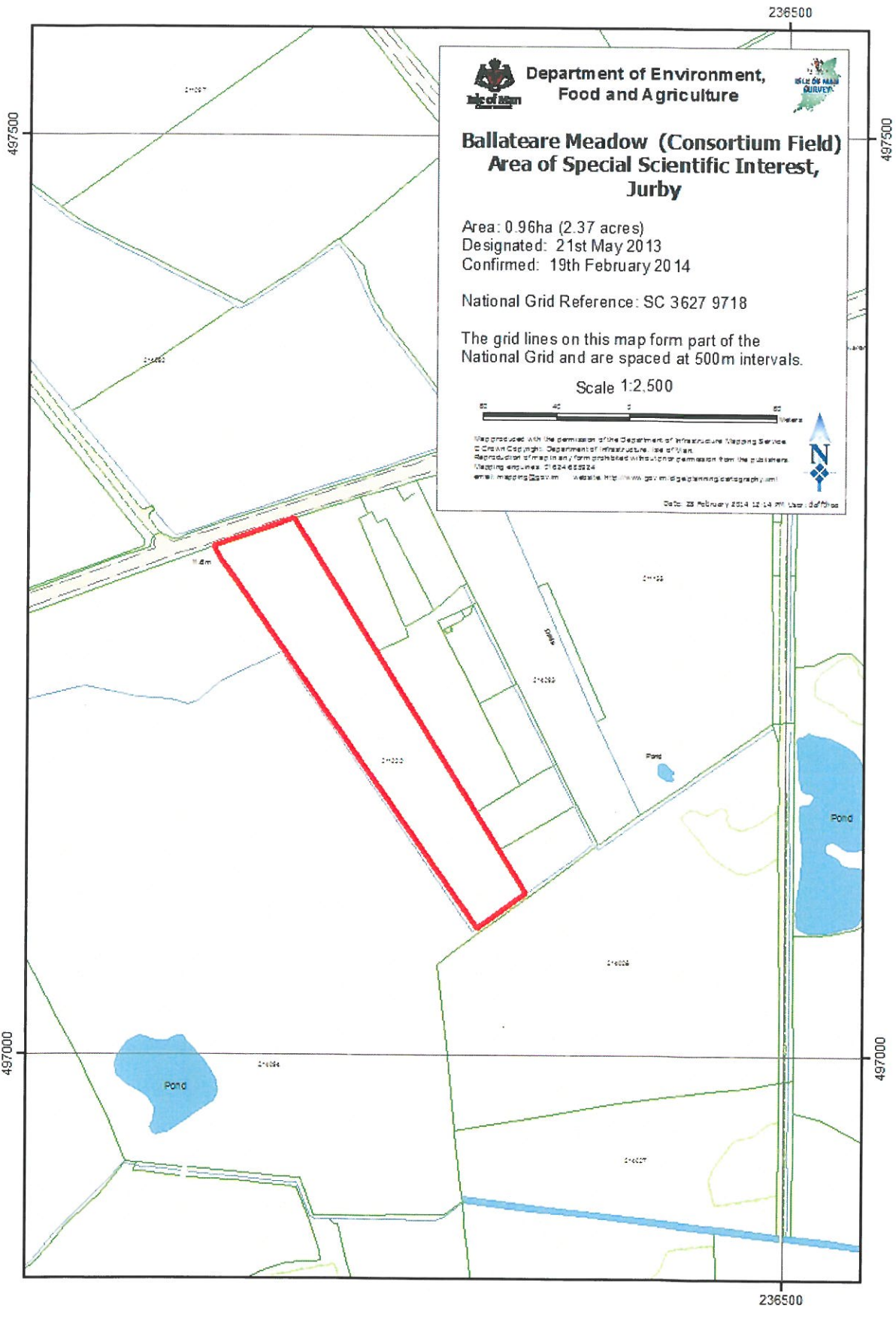


**Isle of Man**  
Government

*Reilrys Ellan Vannin*

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# Citation

## NOTIFICATION OF AN AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

**Site name:** Ballateare Meadow (Consortium Field)

**Status:** Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI) notified under Section 27 of the Wildlife Act 1990.

**Area:** Isle of Man

**Parish:** Jurby

**Planning Authority:** Department of Infrastructure

**Local Authority:** Jurby Commissioners

**National Grid Reference:** SC 3627 9718

**Area:** 0.96 ha (2.37 acres)

**Ordnance Survey Sheets:** 1:50,000 OS Landranger Map 95 and 1:10,560 sheet SC 39 NE

**Date notified:** 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013

**Date confirmed:** 19<sup>th</sup> February 2014

**Date of last revision:** N/A

### Purpose

This site is designated for its neutral grassland dominated by sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum* with Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*.

### Description

Species-rich hay meadow grades to a wet, sedge-dominated area on soils formed on glacial deposits. The meadow is dominated by sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum* and Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*. The site supports greater butterfly orchids *Platanthera chlorantha*<sup>\*\*\*</sup>, northern marsh orchids *Dactylorhiza purpurella*<sup>\*\*\*</sup>, heath spotted orchids *D. maculata*<sup>\*\*\*</sup>, common spotted orchids *D. fuchsii*<sup>\*\*\*</sup> and common twayblade *Listera ovata*<sup>\*\*\*</sup>.

Other floral interest includes whorled caraway *Carum verticillatum*, adder's-tongue fern *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, tufted vetch *Vicia cracca*, common vetch *Vicia sativa*, bush vetch *Vicia sepium*, red clover *Trifolium pratense*, common mouse-ear *Cerastium fontanum*, angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, ox-eye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare* and meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris*.

Marshy grassland dominated by sharp flowered rush *Juncus acutiflorus* occupies the northernmost quarter and a small area to the southeast. This area supports bulrushes *Typha latifolia*, branched bur-reed *Sparganium erectum*, meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, common bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus* and greater bird's-foot trefoil *L. pedunculatus* together with a good range of sedges including carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, common sedge *C. nigra*, oval sedge *C. ovalis* and star sedge *C. echinata*.

Birds breeding at the site include curlew *Numenius arquata*<sup>\*</sup>, sedge warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*, whitethroat *Sylvia communis*, and willow warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*.

\* = species on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act 1990

\*\*\* = species on Schedule 7 of the Wildlife Act 1990

## List of operations requiring DEFA's consent

The operations listed below may damage the features of interest of **Ballateare Meadow (Consortium Field) ASSI**. Before any of these operations are undertaken you must consult DEFA, and may require our consent.

It is usually possible to carry out some of these operations in certain ways, or at specific times of year, or on certain parts of the ASSI, without damaging the features of interest. If you wish to carry out any of these activities please contact a DEFA Biodiversity Officer who will give you advice and, where appropriate, issue a consent. Please help us by using the form sent to you with the notification documents to ask us for consent to carry out these operations.

In certain circumstances it will not be possible to consent these operations, because they would damage the features of interest. Where possible a Biodiversity Officer will suggest alternative ways in which you may proceed, which would enable a consent to be issued. To proceed without DEFA's consent may constitute an offence. If consent is refused, or conditions attached to it, which are not acceptable to you, you will be provided with details of how you may appeal to DEFA.

| Standard reference number | Type of operation  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1                         | Cultivation, including ploughing, rotovating, harrowing and re-seeding.  |
| 2                         | Grazing, the introduction of grazing and alterations to the grazing regime (including type of stock, intensity or seasonal pattern of grazing).  |
| 3                         | Stock feeding, the introduction of stock feeding and alterations to stock feeding practice.  |
| 4                         | Mowing or cutting of vegetation (where already damaging), the introduction of mowing and alterations to the mowing or cutting regime (such as from haymaking to silage).   |
| 5                         | Application of manure, slurry, silage liquor, fertilisers and lime.  |
| 6                         | Application of pesticides, including herbicides (weed killers) whether terrestrial or aquatic, and veterinary products.  |
| 7                         | Dumping, spreading or discharge of any materials.  |
| 8                         | Burning and alterations to the pattern or frequency of burning.  |
| 9                         | Release into the site of any wild, feral, captive-bred or domestic animal, plant, seed or micro-organism (including genetically modified organisms).   |
| 10                        | Killing, injuring, taking or removal of any wild animal (including dead animals or parts thereof), or their eggs and nests, including pest control and disturbing them in their places of shelter.   |
| 11                        | Destruction, displacement, removal or cutting of any plant or plant remains, including tree, shrub, herb, hedge, dead or decaying wood, moss, lichen, fungus, leaf-mould, and turf.  |
| 12                        | Tree and/or woodland management (where already damaging), the introduction of tree and/or woodland management (where applicable) and alterations to tree and/or woodland management (including planting, felling, pruning and tree surgery, thinning coppicing, changes in species composition, removal of fallen timber). |
| 13 a)                     | Draining (including moor- gripping, the use of mole, tile, tunnel or other artificial drains).   |
| 13 b)                     | Modification to the structure of water courses (e.g. rivers, streams, springs, ditches and drains), including their banks and beds, as by re-alignment, regarding, damming, or dredging.   |
| 13 c)                     | Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes.   |
| 14                        | Alterations to water levels and tables and water utilisation (including irrigation, storage, abstraction from existing water bodies and through boreholes). Also the modification of current drainage practices.   |
| 15                        | Infilling of ditches, dykes, drains, ponds, pools, marshes or pits.  |
| 20                        | Extraction of minerals including peat, shingle, hard rock, sand, gravel, topsoil, subsoil, lime, limestone pavement, shells and spoil.   |
| 21                        | Destruction, construction, removal, rerouting, or regrading of roads, tracks, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks, including soil and soft rock exposures or   |

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|       | the laying, maintenance or removal of pipelines and cables, above or below ground.   |
| 22    | Storage of materials.  |
| 23    | Erection of permanent or temporary structures or the undertaking of engineering works, including drilling.   |
| 24 a) | Modification of natural or man-made features (including cave entrances) and clearance of boulders, large stones, loose rock or scree.  |
| 26    | Use of vehicles or craft.  |
| 27    | Recreational or other activities.  |
| 28 a) | Game and waterfowl management and hunting practices (where already damaging), introduction of game or waterfowl management (where applicable) and alterations to game and waterfowl management and hunting practice. |
| 28 b) | Use of lead shot.  |

**Notes:**

1. This is a list of operations appearing to DEFA to be likely to damage the special features of this ASSI, as required under Section 27 of the Wildlife Act 1990.
2. Any reference to 'animal' in this list shall be taken to include any mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird, fish or invertebrate.

**Date notified:** 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013

**Date confirmed:** 19<sup>th</sup> February 2014

**Date of last revision:** N/A

## Views about Management

This is not a legal document.

### **A statement of DEFA's views about the management of Ballateare Meadow (Consortium Field) Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI)**

This statement represents DEFA's views about the management of the ASSI for nature conservation. This statement sets out in principle, our views on how the area's special conservation interest can be conserved and enhanced. DEFA does not have a duty to notify the owners and occupiers of ASSI of its views about the management of the land, but DEFA has determined that this would be good practice with ASSI designations.

Not all of the management principles will be equally appropriate to all parts of the ASSI. Also, there may be other activities, additional to our current views, which can be beneficial to the conservation and enhancement of the features of interest.

This statement does not constitute consent for any of the 'operations requiring DEFA's consent'. The written consent of DEFA is required before carrying out any of those operations. DEFA welcomes consultation with owners, occupiers and users of the ASSI to ensure that the management of this site conserves and enhances the features of interest, and to ensure that all necessary prior consents are obtained.

### **Management Principles**

Continuation of the hay meadow management will protect the existing natural habitats of interest on this site and control scrub encroachment. Late grazing or aftermath grazing by sheep should not cause a problem for the designated interest. Such management, avoiding agricultural improvement, will maintain the diverse grassland flora and suitable soil conditions for the rare plants. Farmyard manure could be applied with prior consent in order to maintain productivity, if necessary, or left off altogether if the aim is simply to manage for the wildlife interest, but artificial fertilisers may be damaging and should be avoided. The application of pesticides should be avoided generally but where necessary the Department will discuss issues arising and the most appropriate way of tackling them within the designated area.

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**Date of last revision:** N/A