



Scientific name	<i>Phragmites australis</i> – <i>Typha latifolia</i> swamp
Common name	Common Reed – Bulrush swamp
Community code	FW3B

Vegetation

This is a somewhat variable swamp community. *Phragmites australis* is the sole constant species but does not form dense beds. Frequently accompanying the reeds are tall swamp species *Bolboschoenus maritimus* and *Typha latifolia* with *Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani* occasionally present. In the rather sparse understorey may be found *Agrostis stolonifera*, *Juncus articulatus*, *Eleocharis palustris*, *Hippuris vulgaris*, *Mentha aquatica*, *Menyanthes trifoliata*, *Lythrum salicaria*, *Iris pseudacorus* or *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*.

Ecology

These stands occur in mildly eutrophic, quite base-rich waters. They have predominantly been recorded from the margins of coastal lagoons, but also from estuaries and from mesotrophic lakes further inland.

Sub-communities

Two sub-communities are described. In the *Bolboschoenus maritimus* – *Agrostis stolonifera* sub-community (FW3Bi), the titular species are both constants, whereas in the *Phragmites australis* sub-community (FW3Bii), *Bolboschoenus* is typically absent and *Phragmites* remains the only constant.

Similar communities

Bolboschoenus maritimus is also a key species in the SM6A *Bolboschoenus maritimus* – *Agrostis stolonifera* saltmarsh-swamp. However, in that community *Phragmites australis* is rare and *Bolboschoenus* is often accompanied by at least one halophile, such as *Aster tripolium*, *Triglochin maritimum* or *Glaux maritima*. Dense beds of *Phragmites* may be referred to the FW3E *Phragmites australis* – *Equisetum fluviatile* swamp.

Records and distribution

Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	54
Transitional:	10
Total:	64

Number of records (mapped)

2001-2015:	5
1986-2000:	7
1971-1985:	48
Pre-1971:	2
Total:	62

Number of hectads (most recent records)

2001-2015:	2
1986-2000:	4
1971-1985:	9
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	15

Number of hectads (all mapped records)

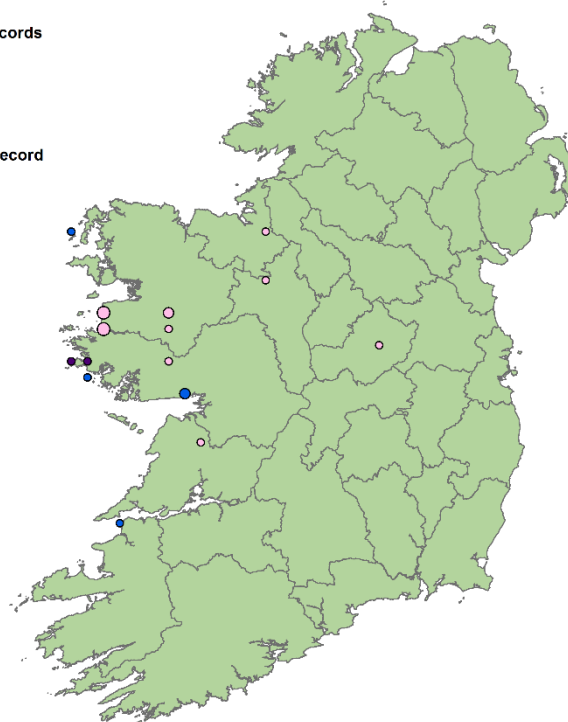
2001-2015:	2
1986-2000:	4
1971-1985:	10
Pre-1971:	2

Number of records

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

Most recent record

- 2001-2015
- 1986-2000
- 1971-1985
- pre-1971



Synoptic table (n = 52)

Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max	Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	V	2-(3)-5	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i>	III	2-(4)-9	<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	I	2-(2)-8
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	III	+-(3)-5	<i>Carex nigra</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	III	2-(3)-7	<i>Potamogeton berchtoldii</i>	I	3-(4)-7
<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	III	2-(3)-3	<i>Lemna minor</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Hippuris vulgaris</i>	II	2-(3)-5	<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	I	2-(3)-4
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	II	2-(3)-4	<i>Glaux maritima</i>	I	2-(3)-4
<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i>	II	2-(3)-5	<i>Oenanthe lachenalii</i>	I	2-(2)-5
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	II	2-(2)-3	<i>Carex rostrata</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	II	2-(3)-5	<i>Sparganium natans</i>	I	3-(4)-4
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	II	2-(2)-4	<i>Senecio aquaticus</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	II	2-(2)-4	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	II	2-(2)-3	<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Galium palustre</i>	I	2-(2)-3	<i>Juncus bulbosus</i>	I	3-(3)-3
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	I	2-(2)-3	<i>Potentilla palustris</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Myosotis laxa</i>	I	2-(2)-3	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	I	2-(3)-7	<i>Carex viridula</i>	I	2-(2)-4
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	I	2-(2)-3	<i>Salix cinerea</i>	I	2-(2)-3
<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	I	2-(2)-4	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Baldellia ranunculoides</i>	I	3-(4)-5	<i>Utricularia australis/vulgaris</i>	I	3-(5)-5

Affinities

GHI: FS1 Reed and tall sedge swamps

ZM: PHR-01A Phragmiton communis Koch 1926

EUNIS: C3.2111 Freshwater *Phragmites* beds / C3.2112 Inland saline water *Phragmites* beds

NVC: S4 *Phragmites australis* swamp and reed-beds (55.3%)

Annex I: No significant correspondence

Proxy environmental data

Light: 7.5 Reaction: 6.8 Wetness: 9.5 Fertility: 5.3 Salinity: 1.5

Conservation value

Stands of FW3Bi may occur fringing lagoons corresponding to the priority EU HD Annex I habitat 1150 Lagoons*.

Management

Occasionally, *Phragmites* beds are cut for reeds, but those in this community may be too sparse for this to be practical. This vegetation may be threatened by eutrophication and drainage.

Key references

Brock, T., Frigge, P., van der Ster, H., 1979. A vegetation study of the pools and surrounding wetlands in the Dooaghry area, Co. Mayo (unpublished). National Parks & Wildlife Service, Dublin, Ireland.

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