



Scientific name	<i>Honckenya peploides</i> – <i>Beta vulgaris</i> strandline community
Common name	Sea Sandwort – Sea Beet strandline community
Community code	ST1C

Vegetation

A covering of the short, regular shoots of *Honckenya peploides* is the key diagnostic of this community. No other plants are constant or even frequent, but *Beta vulgaris* and *Tripleurospermum maritimum* are occasional. A range of other species are less frequently found here.

Ecology

The *Honckenya peploides* – *Beta vulgaris* community is found along sandy or shingly driftlines of the high water mark and on shingle banks.

Sub-communities

No sub-communities are described.

Similar communities

The abundance of *Honckenya peploides* serves to distinguish this community from other strandline types.

Records and distribution

Number of records (all)

Clearly assigned:	13
Transitional:	0
Total:	13

Number of records (mapped)

2001-2017:	3
1986-2000:	9
1971-1985:	1
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	13

Number of hectads (most recent records)

2001-2017:	3
1986-2000:	9
1971-1985:	1
Pre-1971:	0
Total:	13

Number of hectads (all mapped records)

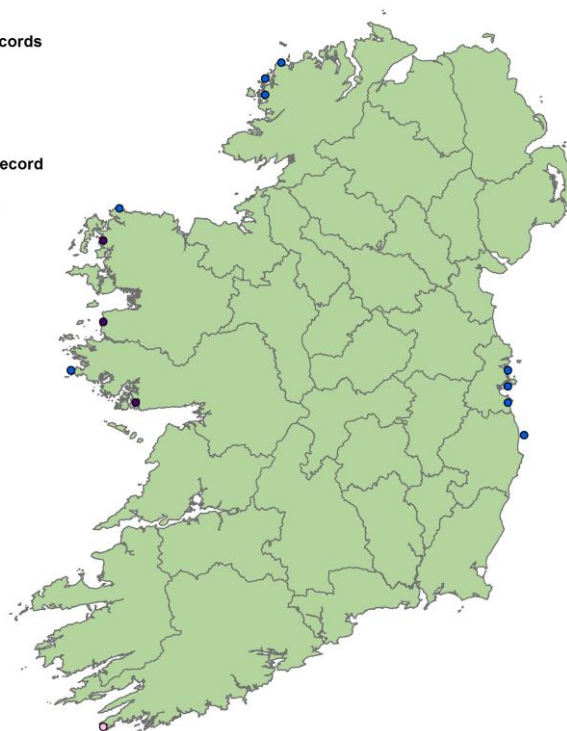
2001-2017:	3
1986-2000:	9
1971-1985:	1
Pre-1971:	0

Number of records

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

Most recent record

- 2001-2017
- 1986-2000
- 1971-1985
- pre-1971



Synoptic table (n = 13)

Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max	Species	Frequency (from I-V)	Cover min (med) max
<i>Honckenya peploides</i>	V	1-(5)-9	<i>Leontodon saxatilis</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Beta vulgaris</i>	II	+-(+)-2	<i>Suaeda maritima</i>	I	+-(+)-+
<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i>	II	+-(2)-5	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	I	+-(+)-+
<i>Atriplex prostrata</i>	I	+-(+)-+	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	I	+-(+)-+
<i>Salsola kali</i>	I	+-(3)-3	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	I	+-(+)-+
<i>Atriplex laciniata</i>	I	3-(5)-6	<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	I	3-(3)-3
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	I	1-(1)-2	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	I	2-(2)-2
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	I	2-(2)-2	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	I	3-(3)-3
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	I	1-(1)-2	<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	I	+-(+)-+
<i>Silene uniflora</i>	I	+-(+)-+	<i>Daucus carota</i>	I	+-(+)-+
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	I	2-(2)-2	<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	I	3-(3)-3
<i>Leymus arenarius</i>	I	5-(5)-5	<i>Crambe maritima</i>	I	5-(5)-5
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	I	+-(+)-+	<i>Brassica nigra</i>	I	5-(5)-5
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	I	2-(2)-2	<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	I	+-(+)-+
<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	I	5-(5)-5			
<i>Galium aparine</i>	I	4-(4)-4			
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	I	3-(3)-3			
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	I	2-(2)-2			
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	I	+-(+)-+			
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	I	2-(2)-2			

Affinities

GHI: CB1 Shingle and gravel banks / LS1 Shingle and gravel shores / LS2 Sand shores

ZM: JC Cakiletea maritimae (46.2%) / JD Ammophiletea (46.2%)

EUNIS: B2.12 Atlantic and Baltic shingle beach drift lines / B1.12 Middle European sand beach annual communities

NVC: SD2 *Honckenya peploides* – *Cakile maritima* strandline community (41.3%)

Annex I: 1210 Drift lines / 1220 Vegetated shingle

Proxy environmental data

Light: 8.8 Reaction: 6.9 Wetness: 5.2 Fertility: 6.2 Salinity: 2.8

Conservation value

Where this species-poor vegetation occurs along sandy or shingly driftlines, it corresponds with EU HD Annex I habitat 1210 Drift lines. Where it occurs on elevated ridges or banks of shingle above the high tide mark, it instead corresponds with habitat 1220 Vegetated shingle. It supports the rare species *Crambe maritima*.

Management

This is unstable and dynamic habitat that does not require active management. It is threatened, however, by recreational pressure, mechanical beach cleaning and the creation of coastal defences which can interfere with sediment dynamics.

Key references

Crawford, I., Bleasdale, A., Conaghan, J. (1996) Biomar survey of Irish machair sites 1996. Volume 2: Plant communities. (unpublished). National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin.

Gaynor, K. (2007) Flora and vegetation of Irish sand dune systems. (Ph.D. thesis). University College Dublin.

Delaney, A., Devaney, F.M, Martin, J.M., Barron, S.J. (2013) Monitoring survey of Annex I sand dune habitats in Ireland. *Irish Wildlife Manuals*, No. 75. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin.

Synopsis version: V1.0

Synopsis date: November 2019

Synopsis author(s): P.M. Perrin



Photo 1. Plot recording in vegetation ascribable to ST1C *Honckenya peploides* – *Beta vulgaris* strandline community, Ferrypoint, Waterford (R. Hodd, July 2016)



Photo 2. ST1C *Honckenya peploides* – *Beta vulgaris* strandline community, Doo Lough, Mayo (A. Delaney, August 2011)