



CURRICULUM VITAE

FIONNUALA H. O'NEILL

B.Sc. (Hons.), Dip. Comp. Sc., H. Dip. Appl. Sc., Ph.D., MCIEEM

EDUCATION

- 1997 – 2003 University College Cork
Ph.D. Thesis title: "Regeneration of native oak woodland following *Rhododendron ponticum* L. clearance from Glengarriff Woods Nature Reserve, Co. Cork, Ireland"
- 1996 – 1997 University College Cork
H. Dip. in Applied Science (1st class Honours)
- 1989 – 1990 University College Cork
Dip. in Computer Science (1st class Honours)
- 1985 – 1989 University College Cork
B.Sc. in Plant Science (2.1 Honours Degree)

CAREER HISTORY

Senior Ecologist/Consultant Ecologist, BEC Consultants

(Apr 2007 – present)

Contract Ecologist, BEC Consultants

(Apr – Sep 2005, May – Sep 2006)

A selection of projects I have worked on with BEC is listed below:

- *Survey of potential turloughs, 2014-15* – Project manager. This project aims to update our knowledge of the range and distribution of this priority habitat in Ireland.
- *Irish Semi-natural Grasslands Survey (ISGS), 2008-2013* – Lead Ecologist. Main duties: field survey, digital mapping, MS Access database design/management, lead author on annual and final reports.
- *Woodland Monitoring Survey (WMS), 2011-2012* – Project Manager/Lead Ecologist. Main duties: project management, field survey, data analysis, lead author on final report.
- *National Survey of Native Woodlands (NSNW), 2005-2008* – Field Ecologist/Team Leader. Main duties: field survey, bryophyte identification, data analysis, MS Access database management, contributor to final report.
- *Galway City Transport Project, 2013-14* – Senior Ecologist. Main duties: field survey and digital mapping of Annex I and non-Annex habitats, Annex I habitat assessment, relevé recording. Habitats mapped include limestone pavement, transition mire, fen, *Cladium* swamps, petrifying springs, wet and dry woodland, marsh and calcareous grassland.
- *Great Island Channel SAC survey, 2014* – Senior Ecologist. Main duties: field survey and digital mapping of saltmarsh habitats, lead author on final report.
- *Waterford Habitat Corridors Map, 2013* – Project Manager. Main duties: compiling existing mammal records and habitat data, field survey, digital mapping, lead author on final report.
- *National Conservation Assessments (NCAs), 2013*. Duties: Reports for two Annex I woodland types, analysis of datasets for up-to-date habitat distributions, assessment of habitat condition on a national scale, identification of impacts, calculation of national range and area using GIS.
- *Ballyseedy Wood Management Plan, 2008* – Project Manager. Duties: field survey, writing the management plan for a cSAC near Tralee that contained the Annex I habitat *91E0 Alluvial forests*.

- *Digitisation of the National Survey of Native Woodland sites, 2010* – Project Leader. Duties: review and digitisation of site/habitat maps and relevés from the NSNW using ArcGIS.
- *Botany Courses, ongoing since 2007* – Course Tutor. Duties: Design and delivery of introductory courses on botany and plant chemistry.

Ecologist, WS Atkins

(Jan – Mar 2006, Oct 2006 – Mar 2007)

Main duties: habitat survey, mapping, site evaluation, impact assessment, recommendation of mitigation measures, report writing, preparation of habitat/botanical sections of EIS, route selection reports and constraints studies. Projects worked on include:

- *Amenity Area at Cardiffsbridge Park/Tolka River*
- *R132 Malahide Road Upgrade/By-pass*
- *Watergrasshill By-pass*
- *Youghal Housing Development*
- *Saggart-Rathcoole-Newcastle Drainage Scheme*
- *Mountmellick By-pass*
- *Bottlehill Landfill Site*

Course Coordinator, University College Cork

(Sep 2004 – Jan 2005)

Coordinator of distance learning courses in Field Ecology (Diploma) and Biodiversity Components of Forestry (Certificate); other duties included project supervision and assessment.

Occasional/Part-time lecturer, various employers

(Oct 1999 – Apr 2007)

Lecturer on university degree and diploma courses on a variety of topics including biodiversity and conservation, bogs, fens, turloughs and woodlands. Field trip leader in a variety of habitats, including woodlands, sea shore and bogs. Lecturer on botany/plant chemistry to student medical herbalists, many of whom were beginners in science.

Computer Instructor, Nyumba ya Sanaa, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

(Apr 1995 – Jul 1996)

Volunteer posting under the Agency for Personal Services Overseas (APSO). Instructed staff (mostly absolute beginners) in the use of computers and computer applications such as WordPerfect and Lotus 1-2-3; facilitated the transfer of manual accounts to computer.

Computer Programmer/Analyst, Kerry Group, Tralee

(Aug 1990 – Jan 1995)

Main duties: maintenance and support of existing in-house software (COBOL, SQL/Oracle database, Unix shell script programming, DOS/Unix-based operating systems), programming of new modules, network administration (1994-95), provision of technical support to staff on all aspects of IT, including word processing (WordPerfect) and spreadsheet (Lotus 1-2-3) packages.

SKILLS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Communication and interpersonal skills

- Excellent report-writing skills.
- Public speaking experience through presentation of workshops, courses and papers at national and international conferences.
- Teaching skills acquired in the course of lecturing, frequently to those with little or no knowledge of botany or ecology, making it particularly important to put information across in an understandable format.

Computer skills

- MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access).
- GIS software (ArcGIS, MapInfo, Quantum GIS).
- Database design and management; data analysis.

Driving

- Full, clean driving licence; own vehicle.

Identification skills

- Excellent plant identification skills, including vascular and bryophyte species.
- Carabids (ground beetles) and butterflies identified to species; other invertebrate groups, including spiders and non-carabid beetles, identified to family.

Membership of professional organisations

- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) (Full member).
- Botanical Society of the British Isles (BSBI) (Ordinary member).
- British Bryological Society (Ordinary member).

CPD courses attended

- Train the trainers (IEEM, 2013).
- Advanced bryophytes (FSC, 2012).
- *Sphagnum* species (Denyer Ecology, 2011).
- Sedge identification (IEEM, 2010).
- Vegetative grass identification (IEEM, 2008).

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS

Barron, S.J., O'Neill, F.H. & Martin, J.R. (2014) Galway City Transport Project – Habitat mapping and assessment of a section of Lough Corrib SAC and surrounding areas. Report for Scott Cawley.

O'Neill, F.H. & Barron, S.J. (2014) Galway City Transport Project: Report on the presence of Annex I habitat *7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation. Report for Scott Cawley.

O'Neill, F.H., Brophy, J.T., Devaney, F.M., Nash, R. & Barron, S.J. (2014) Assessment of the Conservation Status of the Great Island Channel SAC (001058). Report for Cork County Council.

O'Neill, F.H. & Barron, S.J. (2013) *Results of a monitoring survey of old sessile oak woods and alluvial forests*. *Irish Wildlife Manuals*, No. 71. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin.

O'Neill, F.H., Martin, J.R., Devaney, F.M. & Perrin, P.M. (2013) *Irish semi-natural grasslands survey 2007-2012*. *Irish Wildlife Manuals*, No. 78. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin.

Martin, J.R. & O'Neill, F.H. (2011) High nature value meadows: results from a national grassland survey. In: (eds. D. Ó hUallacháin & J. Finn) *Proceedings of the Biodiversity Conference Conserving Farmland Biodiversity: Lessons learned & future prospects*, 25-26 May 2011, Wexford. pp. 28-29. Teagasc, Carlow.

O'Neill, F.H., Martin, J.R., Devaney, F.M., McNutt, K.E., Perrin, P.M. & Delaney, A. (2010) *Irish Semi-natural Grasslands Survey Annual Report No. 3: Counties Donegal, Dublin, Kildare & Sligo*. Report for the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

O'Neill, F. (2009) *Calypstrochaeta apiculata* (Southern Hookeria): first Irish record confirmed in Co. Cork. *Field Bryology* **98**, 28-29.

O'Neill, F.H., Martin, J.R., Perrin, P.M., Delaney, A., McNutt, K.E. & Devaney, F.M. (2009) *Irish Semi-natural Grasslands Survey Annual Report No. 2: Counties Cavan, Leitrim, Longford & Monaghan*. Report for the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

O'Neill, F.H., Perrin, P.M. & Barron, S.J. (2008) *Ballyseedy Wood: A 50-year management plan*. Report for Kerry County Council.

Martin, J.R., Perrin, P.M., Delaney, A.M., O'Neill, F.H. & McNutt, K.E. (2008) *Irish Semi-Natural Grasslands Survey Annual Report No. 1: Counties Cork & Waterford*. Report for the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Perrin, P., Martin, J., Barron, S., O'Neill, F., McNutt, K. & Delaney, A. (2008) *National Survey of Native Woodlands 2003-2008* (2 Volumes). Report for the National Parks and Wildlife Service.