NHA Designations

Lough Carra and some of its lakeshore habitats were identified in 1995 as a proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA). The formal, legal designation has not yet taken place (a Statutory Instrument is required to complete this formality), but the "provisional" NHA status still accords a level of protection via the planning regulations and the Mayo County Development Plan.

Although NHA designation is perhaps not as important in some respects as SAC and SPA status, it is, nonetheless, an indication of the national significance of the area and the need to provide long term protection to a site which carries natural heritage values of national importance.

Site synopses are not currently available for pNHAs.

By Chris Huxley