GALWAY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE Other names used for site IGH THEME TOWNLAND(S) NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE SIX INCH MAP NUMBER ITM CO-ORDINATES 1:50,000 O.S. SHEET No. 38 Dooros Dúros, Doorus IGH15 Economic Geology Dúros (Dooros) Corr na Móna (Cornamona) 39 505360E 751840N GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO. 11

Outline Site Description

An outcrop of stratabound sulphide mineralization within the Dalradian succession, with associated mine shaft dating from 19th century.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Psammites and amphibolites of the Dalradian Argyll Group Ballynakill Schist Formation.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Small base metal mineral deposits are common in the Dalradian succession of Connemara. Many were developed as mines in the 19th or early 20th century, though few produced significant amounts of ore.

Three main mineralization styles occur in the Dalradian: (i) stratabound lenses dominated by iron sulphides (pyrite, pyrrhotite) and containing low-grade copper mineralization, (ii) granite-related skarn-hosted base metal and tungsten mineralization and (iii) vein-hosted base metal and barium mineralization related to faults and fractures. Doorus is considered to be the best exposed example of the first, iron sulphide-dominated style.

The outcrop is over 3 m wide and occurs at the western end of an east-west-trending ridge. A trial shaft dating from the 1850s, partly open but overgrown, is present near the eastern end of the ridge but there is no record of production from this site. Pyrrhotite and pyrite and minor chalcopyrite are disseminated through psammite and amphibolite. The outcrop is heavily iron-stained but fresh sulphide is well exposed in a 0.3 m-wide zone.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

This is considered to be the best exposed example of stratabound base metal mineralization in the Dalradian of Connemara and as such is recommended as a County Geological Site.

Management/promotion issues

The site is not within any designated protection area. The outcrop runs along an unsealed access road leading to a private house and is bordered by a low wall. The wall obscures at least part of the outcrop. The site is approximately 50 m from the Corr na Móna – Dúros road. It is likely to be of interest mainly for research purposes and does not require promotion.



View southwards of exposure of mineralization (mid-distance, left of wall).



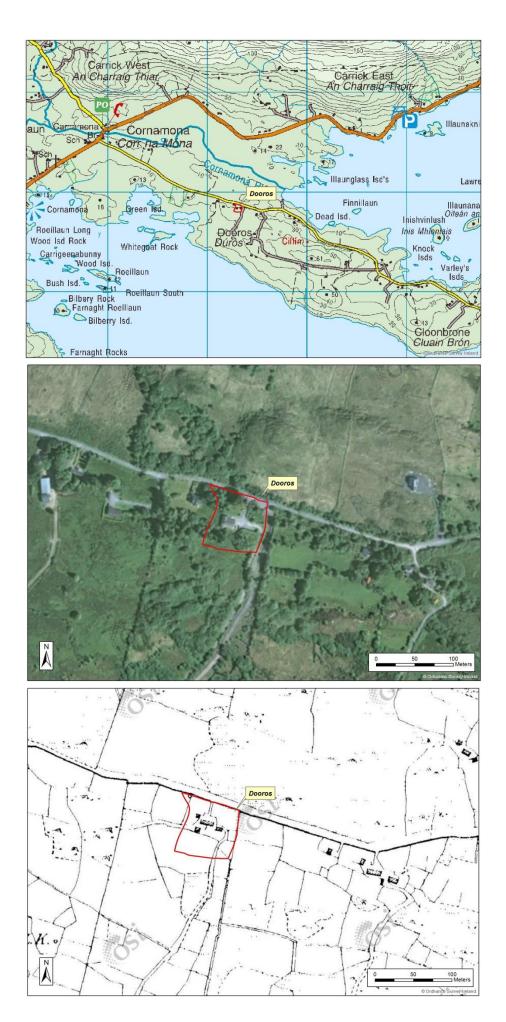
View of outcrop, looking east, hammer beside fresh massive sulphide exposure (close-up in photo, below left).



Massive sulphide mineralization, mainly pyrrhotite and pyrite (left of coin), with some chalcopyrite.



Eastern end of ridge with arrow pointing to location of shaft that dips westward towards outcrop of mineralization.



Meehan et al. 2019. Geological Survey Ireland.

Meehan et al. 2019. Geological Survey Ireland.