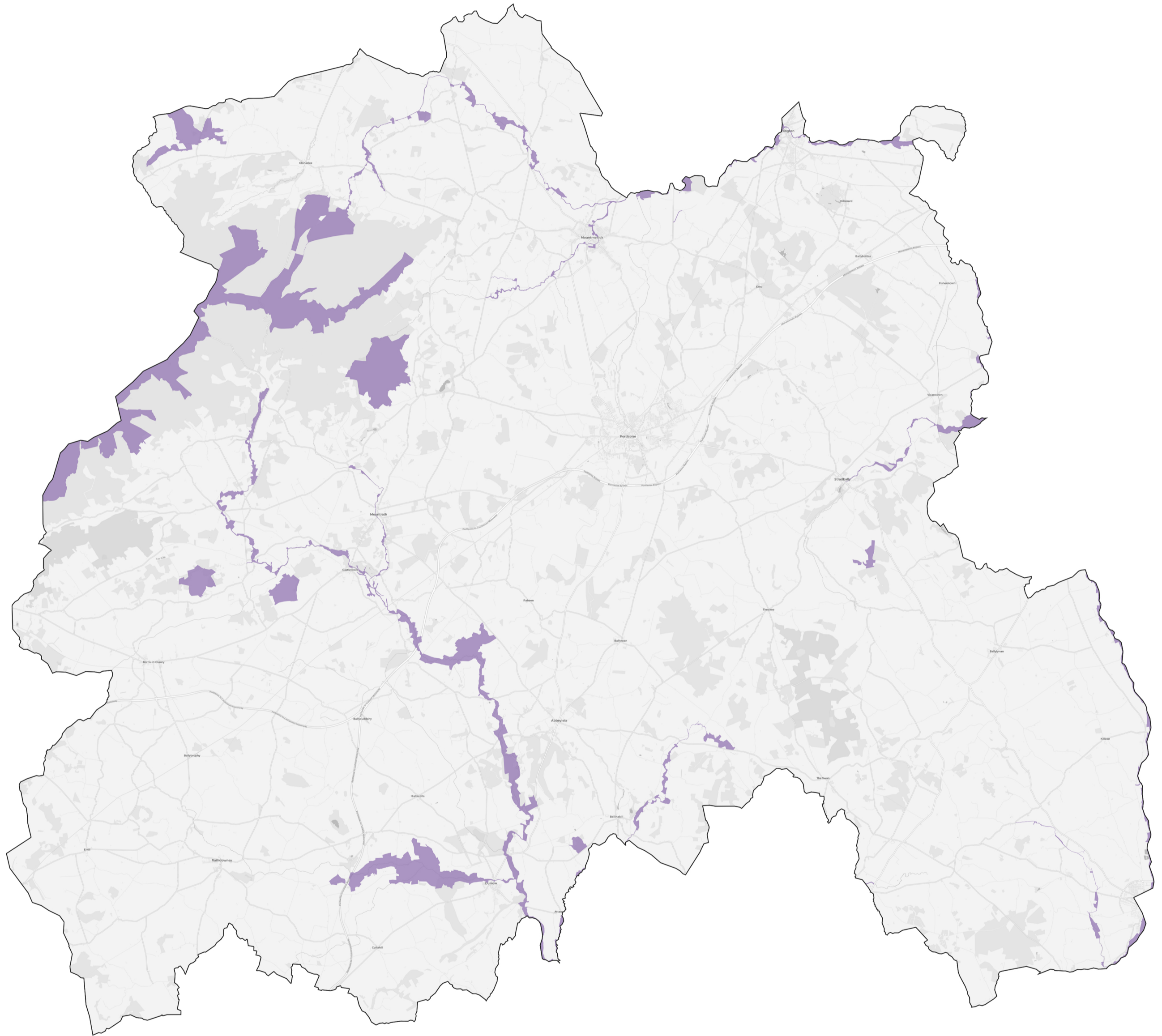


Special Areas of Conservation



Laois

Sample of plants, habitats, and animals within the Special Areas of Conservation found in Laois:

Vertigo moulinsiana (Desmoulin's Whorl Snail); Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (important orchid sites); Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix*; Blanket bogs; Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*); Active raised bogs; Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration; Depressions on peat s substrates of the Rhynchosporion.