

HRA

HABITATS REGULATIONS APPRAISAL

MARCH 2017

DRAFT NATIONAL PARK PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2018-2023



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Section 1 - Introduction

- 1.1 This document represents the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) of the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Partnership Plan 2018- 2023.
- 1.2 The Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Regulations 1994 require that certain plans which are likely to have a significant effect on a European site must be subject to an 'Appropriate Assessment' by the plan-making authority. The process for determining whether an appropriate assessment is required, together with the appropriate assessment itself – is known as the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.
- 1.3 European sites are Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the EC Birds Directive to protect wild birds and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the EC Habitats Directive to protect particular habitats and non-bird species.
- 1.4 Article 6(3) of the EC Habitats Directive requires that any plan (or project) which is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European Site, but would be likely to have a significant effect on such a site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to an "Appropriate Assessment" of its implications for the European Site in view of the site's conservation objectives. However having considered mitigation measures, if the likelihood of having a significant effect on a European Site can be ruled out on the basis of objective information, then those plans or policies can be screened out. This procedure is applied in Scotland through The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended), and is known as the "Habitats Regulations Appraisal" of plans.
- 1.5 Habitats Regulations Appraisal is mandatory and where an appropriate assessment is required, plan-making bodies may not usually adopt the plan, unless the assessment concludes that the plan would not adversely affect the integrity of the site. SNH must be consulted as part of any appropriate assessment.
- 1.6 Scottish Natural Heritage guidance 'Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans, Guidance for Plan-making Bodies in Scotland' (Version 3, January 2015), provides detailed guidance on the separate stages of carrying out an appraisal, and the considerations that will need to be taken into account. SNH have been informally consulted during the undertaking of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal and will be formally consulted during the consultation process to ensure that they agree with the conclusions of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.

Section 2 – National Park Partnership Plan - Context

- 3.1 The National Park Partnership Plan is a draft management plan that sets out how the four aims are to be achieved through the actions of all public sector bodies in Scotland, including the National Park Authority. This Draft National Park Partnership Plan proposes, for public consultation, how the National Park Authority and a wide range of other organisations and interests, can work together over a 5-year period up to 2023, to look after, enhance and make the most of the special landscape of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park.
- 3.2 It sets out proposed outcomes and suggests main priorities for action, which will achieve a shared vision for the area. There are 13 priority outcomes. The Plan will supersede the Approved National Park Partnership Plan 2012-2017. The draft plan will be subject to public consultation. The amended version will then be submitted to Scottish Ministers for adoption.

National Park Aims

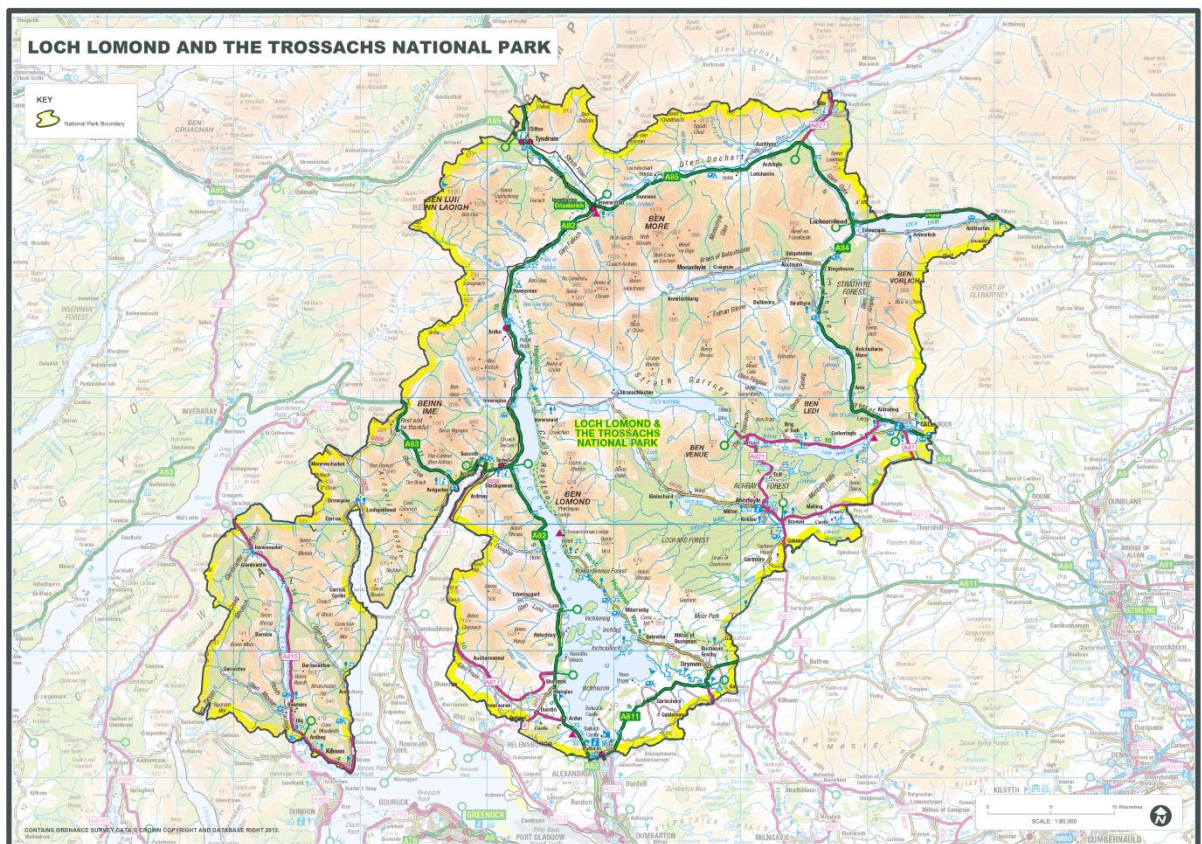
- 3.3 Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park was designated in 2002 as Scotland's first National Park under the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000. The National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000 sets out the four statutory aims for National Parks in Scotland and all planning decisions must be consistent with these:
- to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area
 - to promote sustainable use of the natural resources of the area
 - to promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public, and
 - to promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.
- 3.4 The four aims are to be pursued collectively. However, if a conflict arises between the first aim, (the conservation and enhancement of the natural and cultural heritage), and any of the other aims, greater weight must be given to the first aim (Section 9(6) of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000). This is referred to as the Sandford Principle.

Details of the National Park Partnership Plan

Name of Responsible Authority:	Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority
Title of Plan:	Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Partnership Plan 2018- 2023
Requirement for the Plan:	Section 11 of the National Park (Scotland) Act 2000 requires that the National Park Authority prepares a National Park Plan. Once approved, this will replace the current National Park Plan which covers the period 2012-2017.
Subject of the Plan:	Conservation (natural, cultural and built heritage), Visitor Experience & Management and Rural Development
Period covered by the	2018 - 2023

Plan:	
Frequency of Updates:	At least every five years.
Geographic Area covered by the Plan:	Area designated as The Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park. See Map 1
Purpose and/or objectives of the Plan	Management Plan which will set out how the National Park is to be managed in order to achieve its four statutory aims. The Plan coordinates the work of the National Park Authority and other public bodies and office holders so far as affecting the National Park.

Map 1 Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park



Main Objectives of the National Park Partnership Plan

Purpose

3.5 The Plan sets out how the National Park is to be managing in order to achieve its statutory aims as specified in the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000, which are to:-

- a) Conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area,
- b) Promote the sustainable use of the natural resources of the area,

- c) Promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public, and
- d) Promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.

These aims are to be collectively achieved, unless there is a conflict between the first aim and any of the other aims in which case the first aim must be given greater weight.

3.6 The Plan provides the strategic context for coordinating the authority's functions and activities, and importantly also those of other partner bodies operating in the National Park. Its main purpose is to:-

- Set out the vision and overarching strategy for managing the National Park
- Guide the work of all public bodies and other partners to deliver the aims of the National Park
- Set out the regional land use framework for the National Park
- Provide the strategic context for the Local Development Plan
- Show how the National Park will contribute to the Scottish Government's core purpose and national outcomes.

Objectives

3.7 The new Plan will still be structured around the three key themes of Conservation, Visitor Experience and Rural Development. The new Plan's vision/outcome for each of these themes are:-

- Conservation: Nature, heritage, land and water are valued, managed and enhanced to provide multiple benefits for people and nature.
- Visitor Experience: There is a high quality, authentic experience for visitors from all backgrounds to enjoy recreation activities and appreciate the area's outstanding natural and cultural heritage.
- Rural Development: Businesses and communities thrive and people live and work sustainably.

3.9 Early emerging outcomes for the new Plan have been drafted to aid early engagement and discussion. These include:-

- Climate Change - Scotland's National Parks deliver climate change mitigation through extensive woodland expansion and peatland restoration.
- Reversing the loss of biodiversity - Covering around 9% of Scotland including some of the most important areas for rare and threatened species, Scotland's National Parks deliver landscape scale conservation.
- Natural Capital - Scotland's National Parks exemplify the connections between nature and our economy. National Parks are some of the best places to engage people in the value of our nature.

- Active Scotland - Scotland's National Parks provide outstanding outdoor access infrastructure together with the brand identity, promotion and partnerships to increase participation in outdoor activity amongst residents and visitors.
- Community Empowerment - Communities in the National Parks are taking the lead in local development and regeneration.
- Sustainable economic growth - National Parks are internationally renowned tourism destinations helping drive economic growth in rural Scotland.
- Land's Public Benefit – National Parks are leading the way in responsible stewardship of natural resources delivering multiple benefits to Scotland's people.

3.10 To deliver on these principles, it is anticipated that the new Plan will seek to:-

- continue to build the reputation of National Parks in Scotland and support Scotland as a growing international destination,
- continue to secure visitor infrastructure investment,
- provide more opportunities for people to access the Park to improve their health and wellbeing,
- increase landscape scale conservation gains and climate change mitigation by working collaboratively with a range of landowners across the Park,
- support and empower communities to manage assets, deliver projects and provide services which support National Park outcomes,
- co-ordinate and pool resources of partner organisations to achieve national outcomes with less collective resources.

Section 3 - Habitats Regulations Appraisal Methodology

European Sites considered

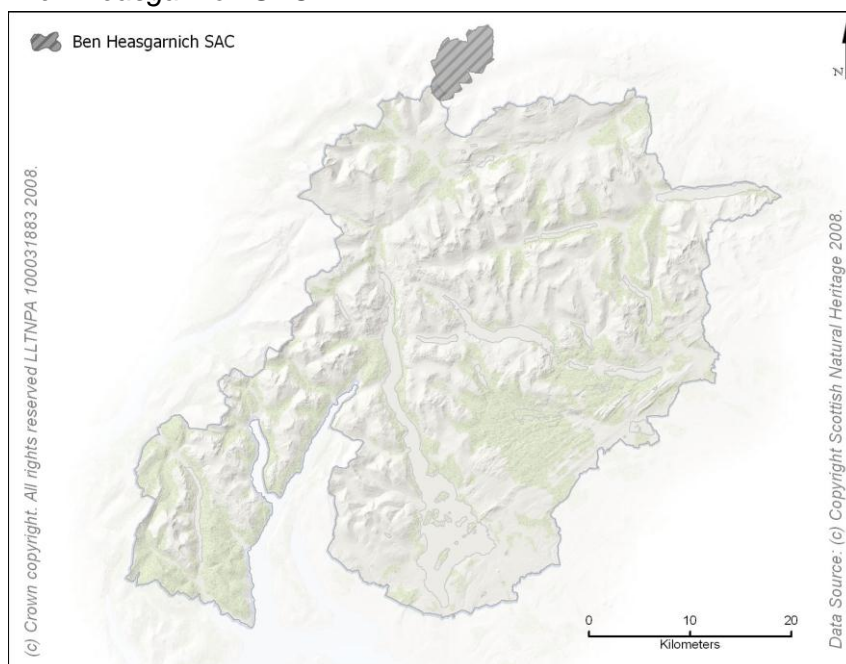
- 4.1 The National Park Partnership Plan covers the geographical extent of the National Park. However given the proximity of a number of European sites outside the National Park it was decided that those potentially affected should be included in the initial consideration. A list of the European sites that should be considered in the appraisal was identified (Table 2). The sites are based on those most up to date designations as of March 2017. GIS maps were used to determine the location of sites outside the boundary of the Park and their potential to be affected by development within it. Relevant factors were considered such as the type and scale of management proposed and proximity to the National Park boundary.
- 4.2 There is a Ramsar site within the plan area that overlaps with the Loch Lomond SPA and the Loch Lomond Woods SAC. In accordance with the SNH Guidance (Section 1.12, page 5), all Ramsar interests are safeguarded by assessing the effects on the overlapping SPA and SAC sites.

Table 2: European Sites selected as being potentially affected and reasons for their selection

European Site	Reason for selection
Ben Heasgarnich SAC	Inside and outside plan area
Loch Lomond Woods SAC	Inside plan area
Endrick Water SAC	Inside and outside plan area
Trossachs Woods SAC	Inside plan area
Ben Lui SAC	Inside plan area
Meall na Samnha SAC	Inside plan area and outside plan area
River Tay SAC	Inside and outside plan area
River Teith SAC	Inside and outside plan area
Loch Lomond SPA	Inside plan area
Glen Etive and Glen Fyne SPA	Inside and outside plan area
Flanders Mosses SAC	Peatland with hydrological link to land within plan area
Ben Lawers SAC	Outside plan area but near to the boundary at Killin
Inner Clyde SPA	Estuary downstream of plan area
Firth of Tay & Eden Estuary SPA	Estuary downstream of plan area
Firth of Tay & Eden Estuary SAC	Estuary downstream of plan area
Firth of Forth SPA	Estuary downstream of plan area
Forth Islands SPA	Estuary downstream of plan area

Information on European Sites

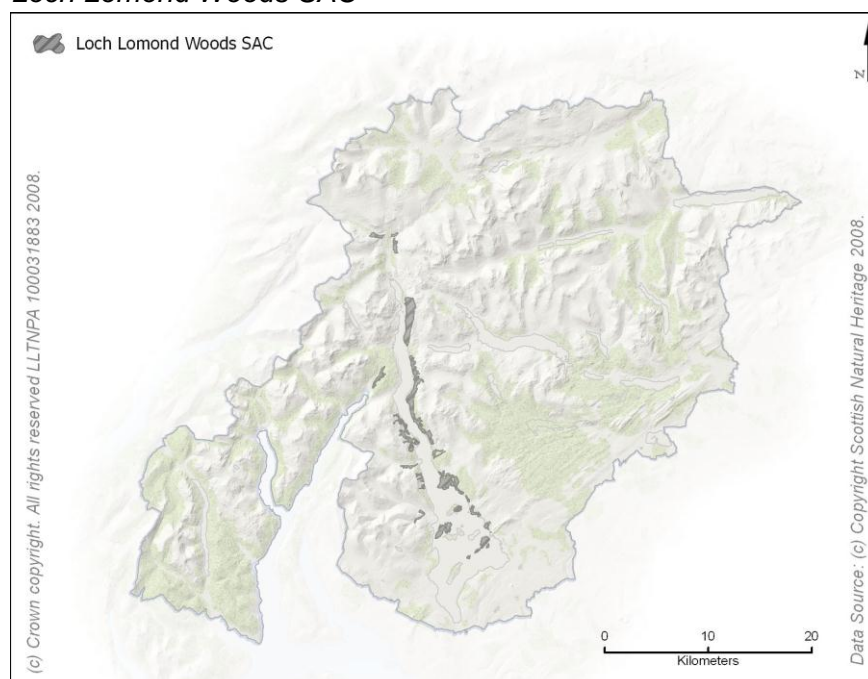
Ben Heasgarnich SAC



Name of European Site: Ben Heasgarnich
Site Type: Special Area of Conservation
<p>Qualifying Interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Base-rich fens (Alkaline fens) • Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands • High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage* (Alpine pioneer formations of the <i>Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae</i>*) • Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks (Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation) • Tall herb communities (Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains) and of the montane to alpine levels • Montane acid grasslands (Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands) • Plants in crevices on acid rocks (Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation) • Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas (Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in continental Europe)*) • Mountain willow scrub (Sub-Arctic <i>Salix</i> spp. Scrub)
<p>Conservation Objectives:</p> <p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of the habitat on site • Distribution of the habitat within site • Structure and function of the habitat • Processes supporting the habitat • Distribution of typical species of the habitat • Viability of typical species as components of the habitat • No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

* Indicates priority habitat

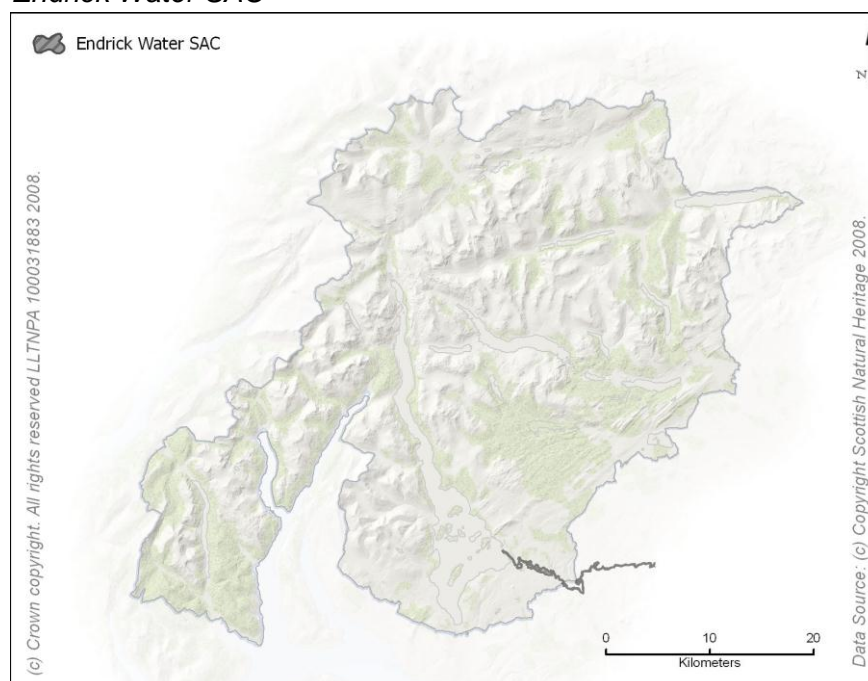
Loch Lomond Woods SAC



Name of European Site: Loch Lomond Woods
Site Type: Special Area of Conservation
Qualifying Interest(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles) Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)
Conservation Objectives: <p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extent of the habitat on site Distribution of the habitat within site Structure and function of the habitat Processes supporting the habitat Distribution of typical species of the habitat Viability of typical species as components of the habitat No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat
<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population of the species as a viable component of the site Distribution of the species within site Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species No significant disturbance of the species

The site overlaps with Loch Lomond Special Protection Area

Endrick Water SAC



Name of European Site: Endrick Water

Site Type: Special Area of Conservation

Qualifying Interest(s):

- River lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*)
- Brook lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*)
- Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*)

Conservation Objectives:

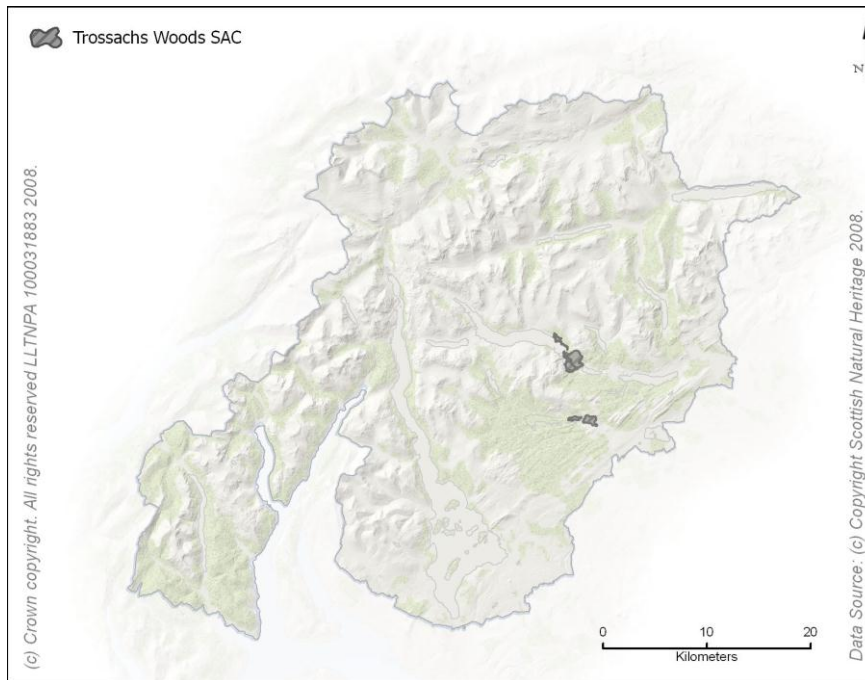
To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

The site overlaps with Loch Lomond Special Protection Area

Trossachs Woods SAC



Name of European Site: Trossachs Woods

Site Type: Special Area of Conservation

Qualifying Interest(s):

- Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles)

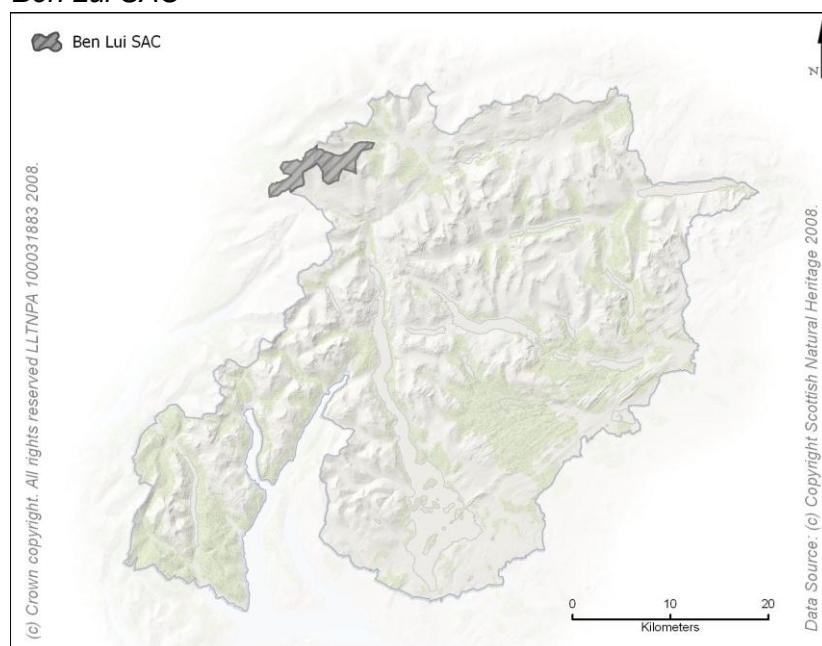
Conservation Objectives:

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

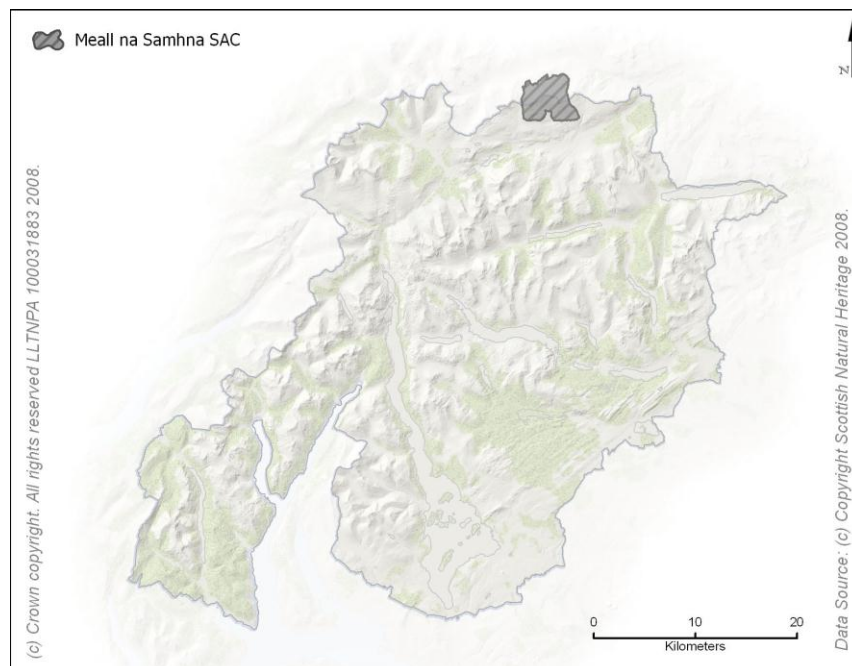
Ben Lui SAC



Name of European Site: Ben Lui
Site Type: Special Area of Conservation
<p>Qualifying Interest(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Base-rich fens (Alkaline fens) • Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands • High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage* (Alpine pioneer formations of the Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae*) • Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks (Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation) • Tall herb communities (Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels) • Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath (Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix) • Montane acid grasslands (Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands) • Plants in crevices on acid rocks (Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation) • Acidic scree (Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)) • Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas (Species-rich Nardus grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in continental Europe*)) • Mountain willow scrub (Sub-Arctic Salix spp. Scrub)
<p>Conservation Objectives:</p> <p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of the habitat on site • Distribution of the habitat within site • Structure and function of the habitat • Processes supporting the habitat • Distribution of typical species of the habitat • Viability of typical species as components of the habitat • No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

* Indicates priority habitat

Meall na Samnha SAC



Name of European Site: Meall na Samnha

Site Type: Special Area of Conservation

Qualifying Interest(s):

Habitats:

- Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands
- Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks (Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation)
- Tall herb communities (Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels)
- Montane acid grasslands (Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands)
- Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas (Species-rich *Nardus* grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas and submountain areas in continental Europe**)
- Mountain willow scrub (Sub-Arctic *Salix* spp. Scrub)

Conservation Objectives:

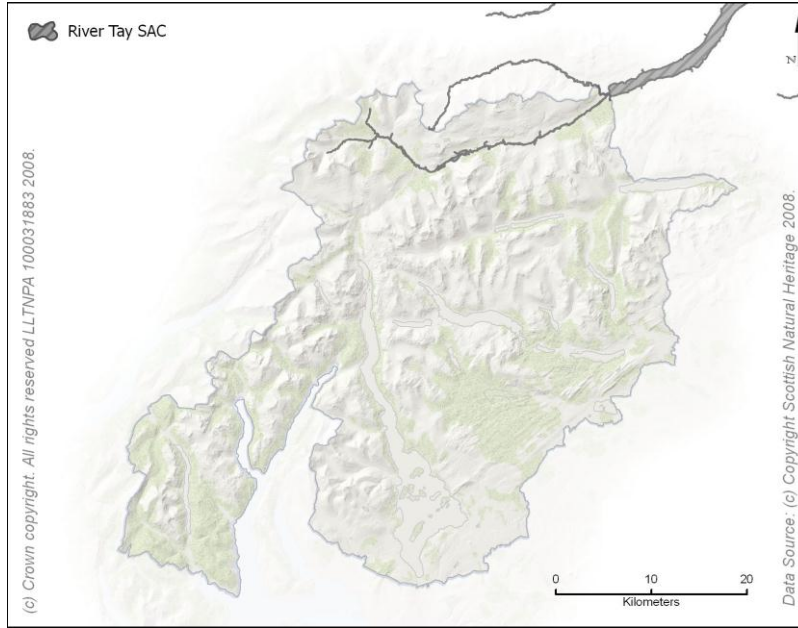
To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

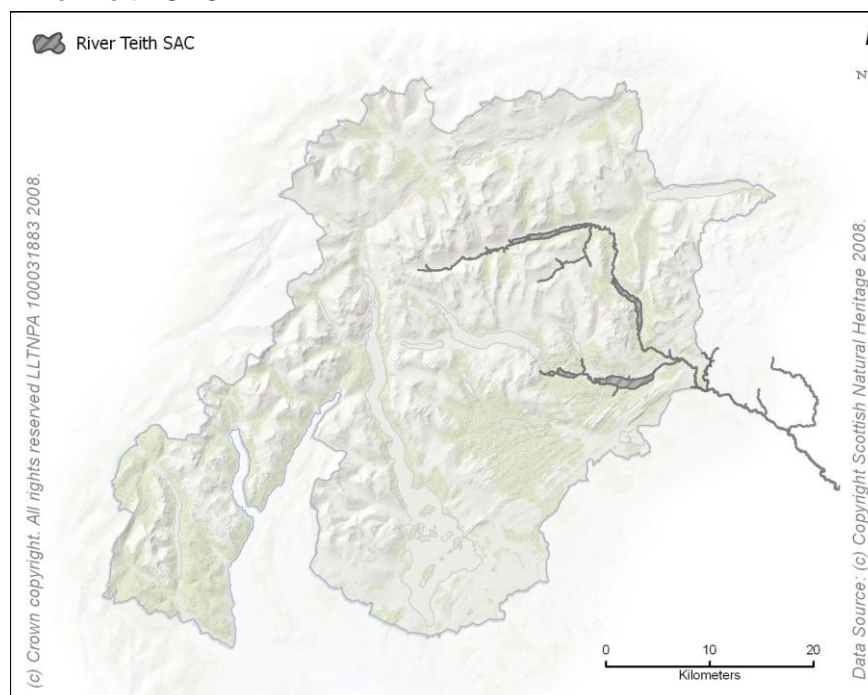
* Indicates priority habitat

River Tay SAC



Name of European Site: River Tay
Site Type: Special Area of Conservation
<p>Qualifying Interest(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) • Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) • Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) • Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) • Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) • Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels (Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i>)
<p>Conservation Objectives:</p> <p>Habitat - To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of the habitat on site • Distribution of the habitat within site • Structure and function of the habitat • Processes supporting the habitat • Distribution of typical species of the habitat • Viability of typical species as components of the habitat • No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat
<p>Species - To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species

River Teith SAC



Name of European Site: River Teith

Site Type: Special Area of Conservation

Qualifying Interest(s):

- River lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*)
- Brook lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*)
- Sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*)
- Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*)

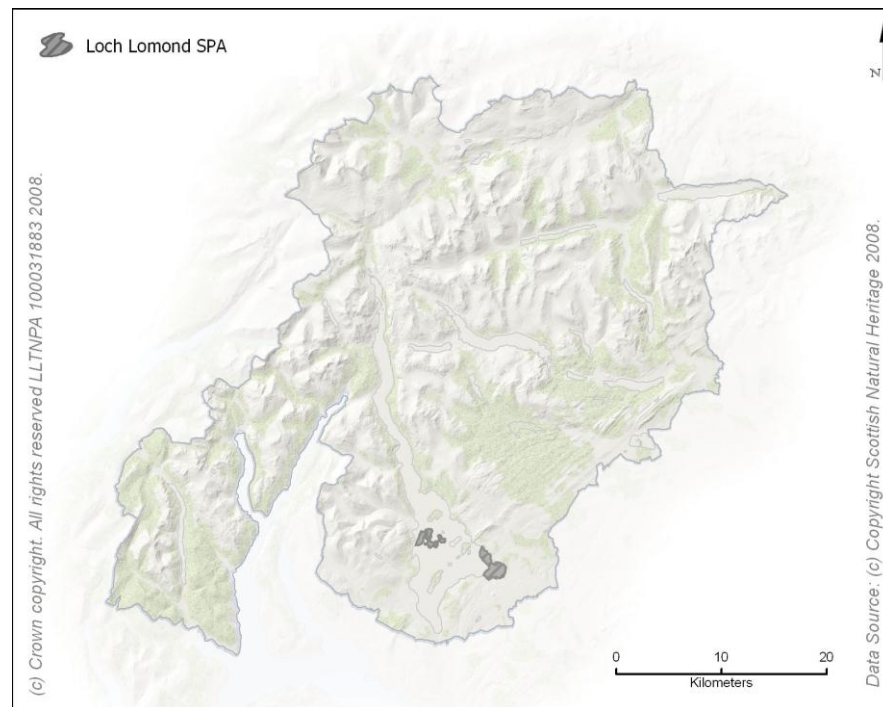
Conservation Objectives:

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

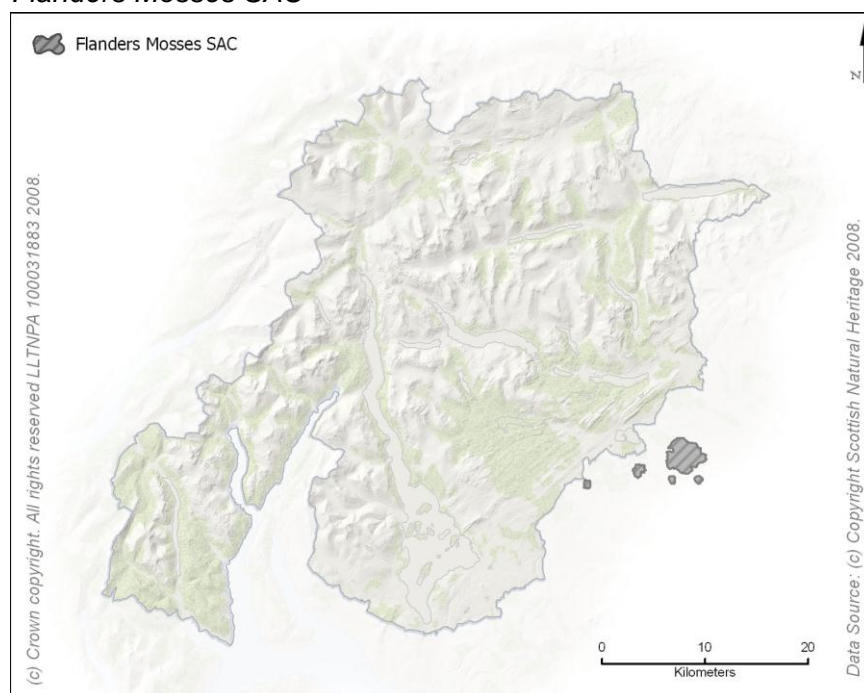
Loch Lomond SPA



Name of European Site: Loch Lomond
Site Type: Special Protection Area
Qualifying Interest(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>) • Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>)
Conservation Objectives:
<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of the species as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species

This site overlaps with Endrick Water Special Area of Conservation and Loch Lomond Woods Special Area of Conservation.

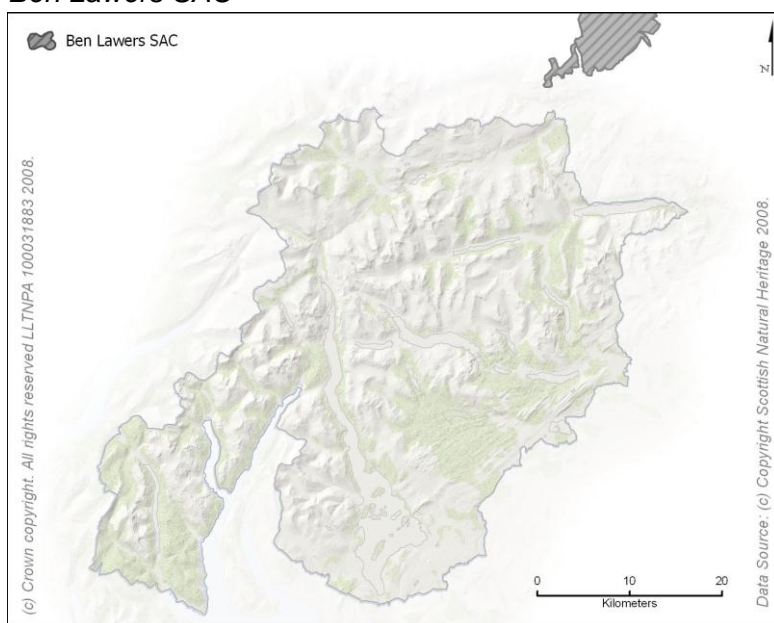
Flanders Mosses SAC



Name of European Site: Flanders Mosses
Site Type: Special Area of Conservation
Qualifying Interest(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active raised bogs • Degraded raised bog (Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration)
Conservation Objectives: <p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed below) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of the habitat on site • Distribution of the habitat within site • Structure and function of the habitat • Processes supporting the habitat • Distribution of typical species of the habitat • Viability of typical species as components of the habitat • No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat
Qualifying Habitats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active raised bogs* • Degraded raised bogs

* Indicates priority habitat

Ben Lawers SAC



Name of European Site: Ben Lawers

Site Type: Special Area of Conservation

Qualifying Interest(s):

- Base-rich fens (Alkaline fens)
- Alpine and subalpine heaths (Alpine and Boreal heaths)
- Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands
- High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage* (Alpine pioneer formations of the *Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae**)
- Blanket bog *
- Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks (Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic plants)
- European Dry heaths
- Tall herb communities (Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels)
- Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels (Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or of the *Isoëto-Nanojuncetea*)
- Montane acid grasslands (Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands)
- Plants in crevices on acid rocks (Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation)
- Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas* (Species-rich *Nardus* grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in continental Europe)*)
- Mountain willow scrub (Sub-Arctic *Salix* spp. Scrub)

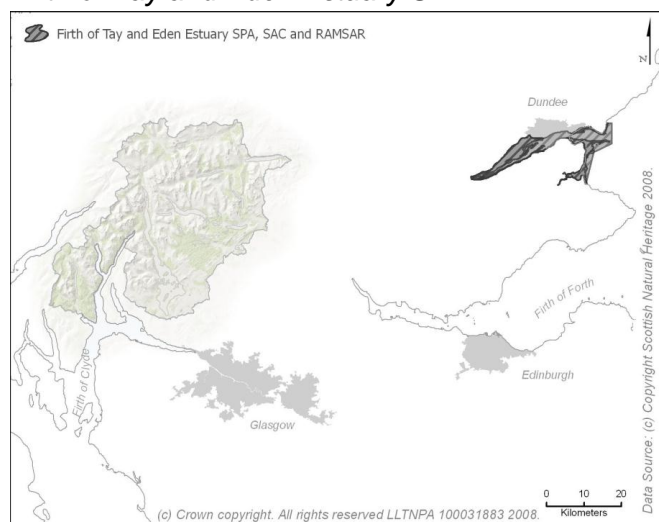
Conservation Objectives:

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

*Indicates priority habitat

Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA



Name of European Site: Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary

Site Type: Special Protection Area

Site description:

Qualifying interest(s):

- Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) (internationally important wintering population)
- Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) (internationally important wintering population)
- Little tern (*Sterna albifrons*) (Nationally important breeding populations)
- Marsh harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*) (Nationally important breeding populations)

Supporting in winter over 20,000 waterfowl including:

- Black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa islandica*)*
- Common scoter (*Melanitta nigra*)*
- Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)*
- Dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina*)*
- Eider (*Somateria mollissima*)*
- Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*)*
- Goosander (*Mergus merganser*)*
- Grey plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)*
- Greylag goose (*Anser anser*)
- Long-tailed duck (*Clangula hyemalis*)*
- Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*)*
- Pink-footed goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)
- Red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*)*
- Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)*
- Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*)
- Velvet scoter (*Melanitta fusca*)*
- Waterfowl Assemblage

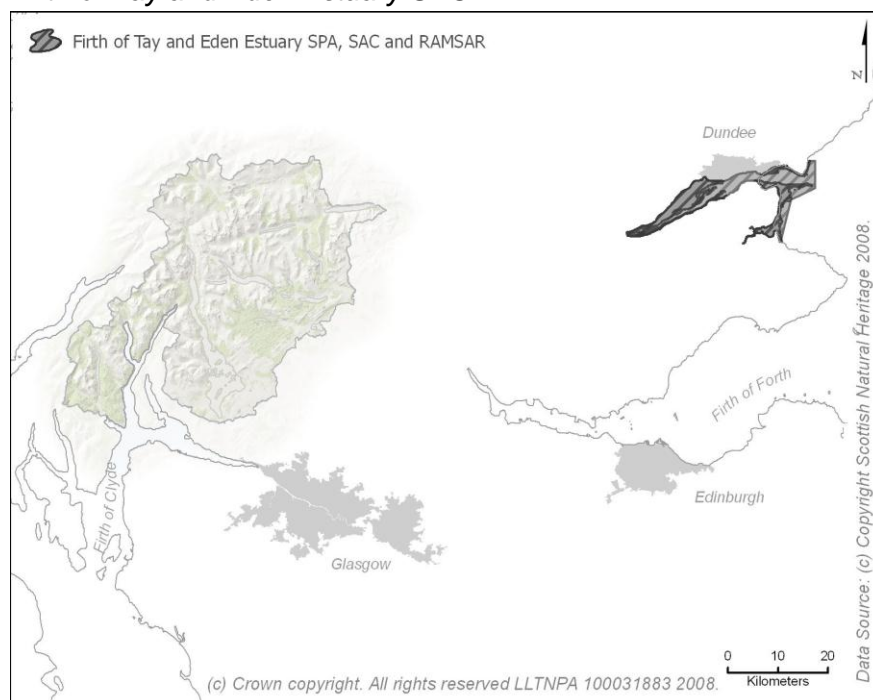
Conservation Objectives:

Habitats - To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

*Indicates assemblage qualifier only

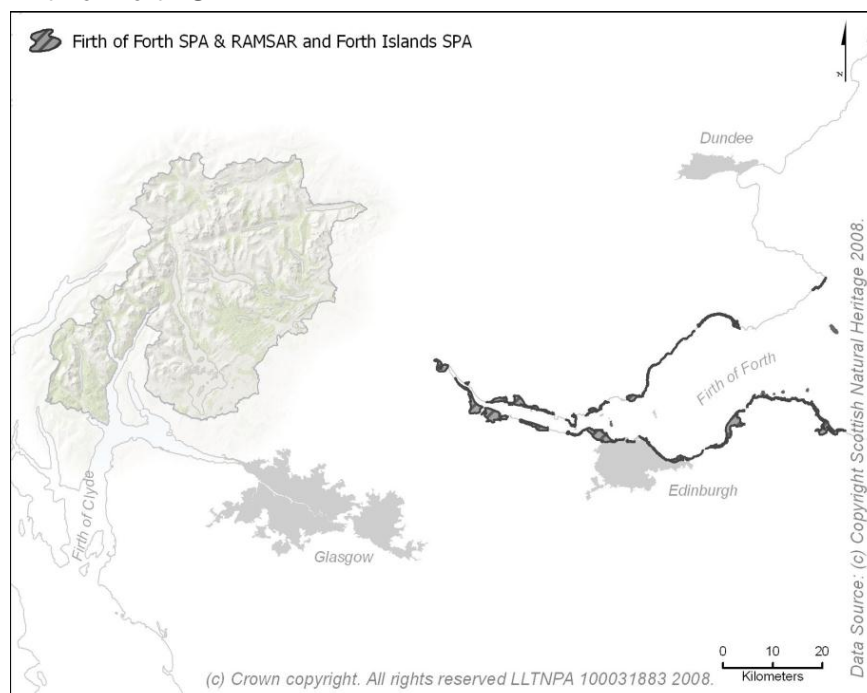
Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC



Name of European Site: Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary
Site Type: Special Area of Conservation
Qualifying Interest(s): Habitats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estuaries • Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide • Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time Species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)
Conservation Objectives:
Habitats - To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of the habitat on site • Distribution of the habitat within site • Structure and function of the habitat • Processes supporting the habitat • Distribution of typical species of the habitat • Viability of typical species as components of the habitat • No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat
Species - To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of the species as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species

The site overlaps with Firth of Tay & Eden Estuary Special Protection Area.

Firth of Forth SPA



Name of European Site: Firth of Forth (SPA)

Site Type: Special Protection Area

Site description:

Qualifying interest(s):

- Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) (European Importance)
- Golden plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) (European Importance)
- Red-throated diver (*Gavia stellar*) (European Importance)
- Slavonian grebe (*Podiceps au*) (European Importance)
- Knot (*Calidris canutus*) (Wintering populations)
- Pink-footed goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*) (Wintering populations)
- Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) (Wintering populations)
- Shelduck (*Tadorna tador*) (Wintering populations)
- Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) (Wintering populations)
- Sandwich tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*) (Post-breeding (passage) population)

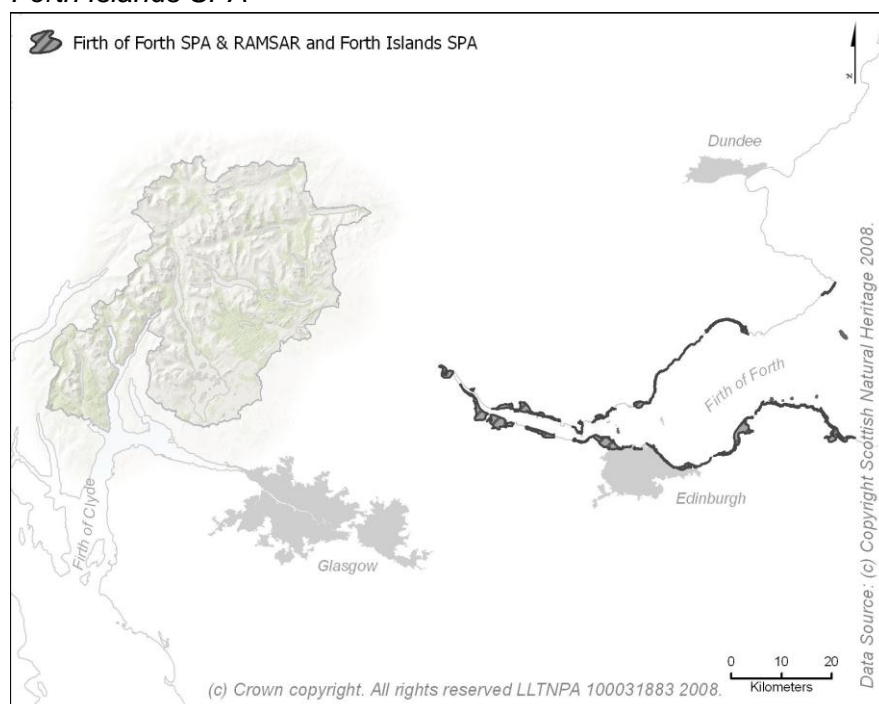
Wintering waterfowl assemblage including 15 migratory species:

- Common scoter (*Melanitta nigra*)*
- Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)*
- Curlew (*Numenius arquata*)*
- Dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina*)*
- Eider (*Somateria mollissima*)*
- Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*)*
- Great crested grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*)*
- Grey plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)*
- Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)*
- Long-tailed duck (*Clangula hyemalis*)*
- Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)*
- Oystercatcher (*Haematopus o*
- Red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*)*
- Ringed plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*)*
- Scaup (*Aythya marila*)*
- Velvet scoter (*Melanitta fusca*)*
- Wigeon (*Anas penelope*)*

Conservation Objectives:
<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of the species as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species

** indicates assemblage qualifier only*

Forth Islands SPA



Name of European Site: Forth Islands (SPA)

Site Type: Special Protection Areas

Site Description:

Forth Islands SPA consists of a series of islands supporting the main seabird colonies in the Firth of Forth. The seaward extension extends approximately 2 km into the marine environment to include the seabed, water column and surface.

Qualifying Interest(s)

- Arctic tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)
- Common tern (*Sterna hirundo*)
- Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)*
- Gannet (*Morus bassanus*)
- Guillemot (*Uria aalge*)*
- Herring gull (*Larus argentatus*)*
- Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)*
- Lesser black-backed gull (*Larus fuscus*)
- Puffin (*Fratercula arctica*)
- Razorbill (*Alca torda*)* (nationally important populations)
- Roseate tern (*Sterna dougallii*)
- Sandwich tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*)
- Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*)
- Seabird assemblage

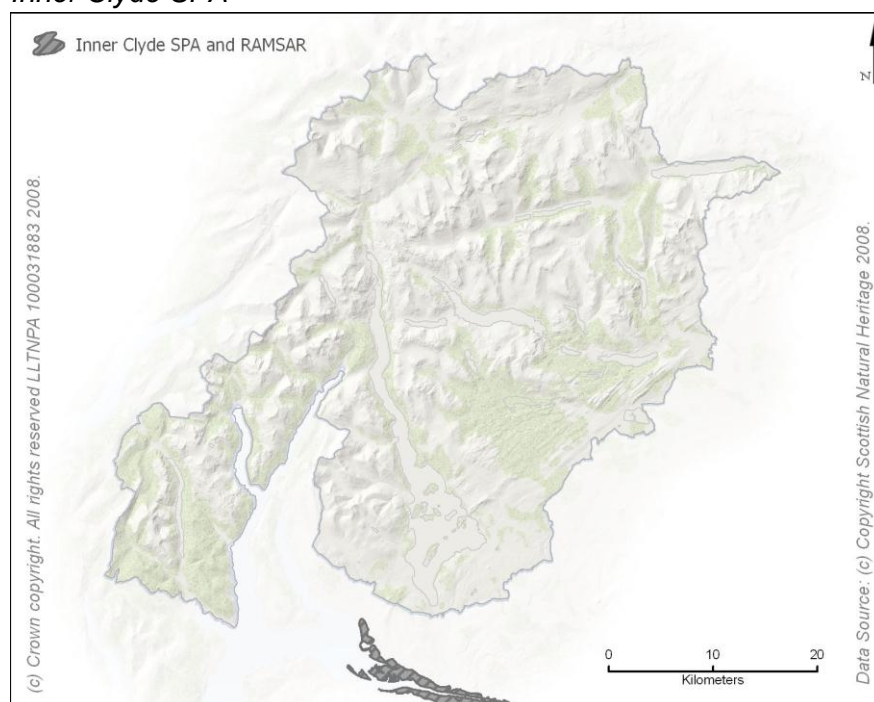
Conservation Objectives:

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

* indicates assemblage qualifier only The site overlaps with Isle of May Special Area of Conservation.

Inner Clyde SPA



Name of European Site: Inner Clyde

Site Type: Special Protection Area

Site Description:

The Inner Clyde SPA contains extensive intertidal flats which support large numbers of wintering waterfowl.

Qualifying Interest:

- Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) (wintering population)

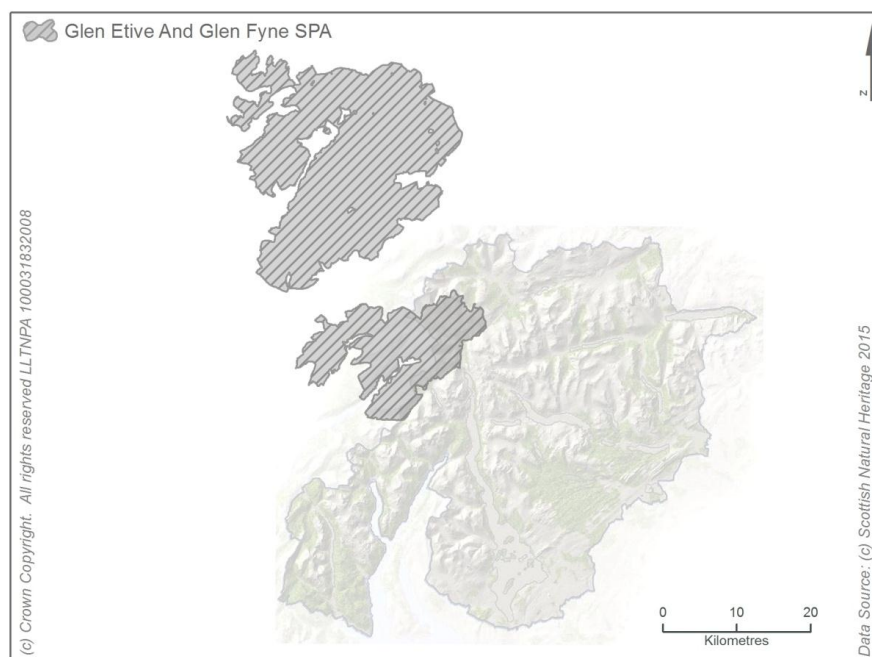
Conservation Objectives:

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Glen Etive and Glen Fyne SPA



Name of European Site: Glen Etive and Glen Fyne
Site Type: Special Protection Area
Site Description: Glen Etive and Glen Fyne Special Protection Area (SPA) is a large, predominantly upland site that rises from sea level to over 1100 m and encompasses a diverse range of habitats including heather moorland, rough grassland, blanket bog, native woodland, montane heaths and exposed rock and scree. There are also numerous freshwater lochs and river systems. Qualifying Interest: Supports a population golden eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> .
Conservation Objectives
To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of the species as a viable component of the site • Distribution of the species within site • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species • Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats • supporting the species • No significant disturbance of the species

This site overlaps with the following Special Areas of Conservation (SAC): Ben Lui, Glen Coe, Glen Creran Woods, Loch Etive Woods, Loch Lomond Woods, Rannoch Moor, River Tay and Glen Shira & also overlaps with Rannoch Lochs Special Protection Area (SPA).

European sites scoped out

- 4.4 Two European sites were scoped out as “No Likely Significant Effect” in relation to all aspects of the Local Development Plan. These were Flanders Mosses SAC and the Forth Islands SPA. Flanders Moss SAC, although hydrologically connected to the National Park, is upstream, by virtue of being ombrotrophic and therefore not subject to any possible influences from water quality. Any possible effects from air quality, e.g. from Class 5 industrial developments, quarries or biomass energy generation, were considered to be de minimis. Forth Islands SPA was considered to be too far downstream and too maritime in its influences to experience any effects from any of the proposals.
- 4.5 For four others, the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA and SAC, the Firth of Forth SPA, and the Inner Clyde SPA the only likely significant effect identified for the plan was the potential for downstream effects on water quality. The subsequent screening for the Local Development plan showed that there was sufficient mitigation in place for the application process to ensure that there would be no adverse effects on these European sites.
- 4.6 Having reached these conclusions there is no likelihood that any of the policies or proposals in the Local Development Plan could have a likely significant effect on those six European sites it is proposed that these European sites are not included in the HRA with reasons set out below for each site.

Table 2: European Sites Scoped Out of the Appraisal

European Site	Reason for Scoping Out ⁽¹⁾
Flanders Mosses SAC	Adjacent to plan area but ombrotrophic (rain-fed) peatland so no possibility of downstream effects. The boggy terrain deters many recreation or tourism activities in the site, except in selected locations with sensitively constructed infrastructure, and these are subject to appropriate conservation management.
Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA	Estuary too far downstream of plan area to be affected by any changes in water quality under the National Park Partnership Plan. Too geographically distant to be affected by any small-scale development and management actions. Additionally the River Tay is upstream of the site and any potential impacts on water quality are therefore assessed as part of this HRA.
Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC	Estuary too far downstream of plan area to be affected by any changes in water quality under the National Park Partnership Plan. Too geographically distant to be affected by any small-scale development and management actions. Additionally the River Tay is upstream of the site and any potential impacts on water quality are therefore assessed as part of this HRA.
Firth of Forth SPA	Estuary too far downstream of plan area to be affected by any changes in water quality under the National Park Partnership Plan. Too geographically distant to be affected by any small-scale development and management actions. Additionally, the River Teith is upstream of the site and any potential impacts on water quality are therefore assessed as part of this HRA.
Forth Islands SPA	Islands too far downstream of plan area, and with too strong

	a maritime influence to be affected by any changes in water quality under the National Park Partnership Plan. Too geographically distant to be affected by any small-scale development and management actions. Additionally, the River Teith is upstream of the site and any potential impacts on water quality are therefore assessed as part of this HRA.
Inner Clyde SPA	Estuary too far downstream of plan area to be affected by any changes in water quality under the National Park Partnership Plan. The impact from any policies or proposals in the National Park Partnership Plan will be de minimis due to the effect of dilution and biological breakdown in the river and estuary systems before they reach the SPA. Too geographically distant to be affected by disturbance from any small-scale development and management actions in the National Park.

Section 4 - Screening the National Park Partnership Plan

5.1 Having gathered information on the European sites potentially affected by the National Park Partnership Plan as set out in Table 3 the National Park Partnership Plan has followed the screening process as set out in the SNH guidance as follows:

Table 3: SNH Guidance - Screening Steps

Step 1	Screening out general policy statements
Step 2	Screening out projects referred to in, but not proposed by the Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - These could be projects that are to be delivered as part of national infrastructure and promoted by national government and where the plan will play no part in its delivery or are subject to consent directly from Scottish Ministers.
Step 3	Screening out aspects of the Plan that could have no likely significant effect on a site alone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Because they are intended to protect the natural environment b) This will not themselves lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria c) Which make provision for change but could have no conceivable effect on a European site, e.g. because there is no link or path way or any effects would be positive or would not otherwise undermine the conservation objectives of the site; d) Which make a provision for change but which could have no significant effect (and hence a minor residual effect) on a European site because any potential effects would be insignificant, being so restricted or remote from the site that they would not undermine the conservation objectives for the site. e) For which the effects on any particular European Site cannot be identified because the proposal is too general, for example, it is not known where or when or how the proposal will be implemented or where effects may occur or where sites if any may be effected.

5.4 **Step 1-3:** The screening process of the draft NPPP has therefore included a record of outcomes/actions that are not likely to have a significant effect on a European Site. The detailed matrix of the screening process is included in the Appendix.

Table 4: **Summary** of Priorities not likely to have a significant effect (alone) on a European Site

Aspects of the Plan which would not be likely to have a significant effect on a European site alone	Relevant parts of the Plan
General Policy Statements (Step1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • Long-term vision
Projects referred to in but not proposed by the plan – i.e excluded from appraisal because they are not proposals generated by this Plan (Step 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Development Priorities 1, 7, 8, 15 • Visitor Experience Priorities 5, 6, 14
Policies which protect the natural environment , including biodiversity or conserving or enhancing the natural, built/historic or cultural environment. Step 3(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 • Visitor Experience Priorities 14, 15, 16 • Rural Development Priorities 3
Policies which will not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria. Step3(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Development Priorities 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 • Visitor Experience Priorities 1, 11, 12, 13, 17, 21, 22
Which make provision for change but could have no conceivable effect on a European Site because there is no link or path way or any effects would be positive or would not otherwise undermine the conservation objectives of the site. Step 3(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Development Priorities 2, • Visitor Experience Priority 9
Which make a provision for change but which could have no significant effect (and hence a <i>minor residual effect</i>) on a European Site because any potential effects would be insignificant, being so restricted or remote from the site that they would not undermine the conservation objectives for the site (See Table 7 for 'In-combination effects') (paragraphs 4.34 – 4.41 of the SNH Guidance) re in combination effects with other aspects of the same plan or in combination with other plans or projects. Step 3(d).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor Experience Priority 4
For which the effects on any particular European Site cannot be identified because the proposal is too general, for example, it is not known where or when or how the proposal will be	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor Experience Priorities 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10 • Rural Development Priority 4

implemented or where effects may occur or where sites if any may be effected. <i>Step 3(e)</i> .	

5.6 The above Table 4 screens out all the outcomes that do not have significant effect 'alone'. The 'in combination' assessment is found in Table 6 below.

Consideration of likely significant effects in combination

In-combination with other relevant Plans or Projects

5.5 The 'in combination effects' of the National Park Partnership Plan with other plans and projects which would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site has been undertaken. Only those elements of other plans or projects which have been assessed to have a minor residual effect should be considered with elements of the National Park Partnership Plan which also have minor residual effects. Table 9 below identifies the other plans and projects which have been assessed.

Table 6: Other Relevant Plans and Projects considered for 'in combination' effects

Other Relevant Plans / Projects	
Key National Plans / Projects	
National Planning Framework	HRA undertaken. It guides the Local Development Plan. No policies or proposals identified that would have 'in combination' effects with proposals within the National Park Partnership Plan.
River Basin Management Plans	HRA undertaken. Will improve river SACs. No de minimis/minor residual effects identified.
UK Biodiversity Action Plan	Guides habitat and species management, benefitting European sites.
Local Development Plans	
Argyll and Bute; Stirling; West Dunbartonshire ; Perth and Kinross	HRA was undertaken. The majority of policies and proposals identified would have no 'in combination' effects.
National Park Documents	
Local Development Plan 'LIVE Park'	HRA was undertaken. The policies and proposals identified would have no 'in combination' effects.
Biodiversity Action Plan 'Wild Park'	HRA not undertaken. Wild Park 2020 is a delivery mechanism for the conservation objectives and policies in the NPPP 2012-2017, already subjected to HRA where it was concluded that there was no likelihood of the NPPP having significant effects on any European sites.

Your Park 'Camping Development Strategy'	HRA not undertaken as a strategic plan, projects not detailed enough.
Core Paths Plan	HRA not undertaken. It protects a network of paths throughout the Park. No effect on any European sites.
Outdoor Recreation Plan	HRA not undertaken as policies were too general and projects were not detailed enough.
Transport Scotland projects not started	
A82 Improvements: - Tarbet to Inverarnan Upgrade	This project will be assessed under the Habitats Regulations in terms of its impacts on any European site such as Loch Lomond Woods SAC. There is no information available about the details of this proposal so it cannot be considered in terms of potential in combination effects.

5.6 The other relevant plans and projects listed above in Table 6 have been considered for 'in combination' effects and there are no likely significant in combination effects.

Conclusion to screening

5.7 The Habitats Regulations Appraisal process has followed the key stages in the SNH Guidance. The appraisal process identified that no part of the National Park Partnership Plan was likely to have a significant effect on any European site 'alone' or 'in combination'. As a consequence, it can be safely concluded that the National Park Partnership Plan 2018-2023 will not adversely affect the integrity of any European Site. The plan is subject to consultation April-May 2017 and any amendments following the consultation will be screened at a later date.

Appendix : Detailed Matrix of Priorities and Reasons For Screening Out

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
		1) General policy statements	2) Projects not generated by this plan	3a) Intended to protect the natural environment	3b) Will not themselves lead to development or other change	3c) Make provision for change but could have no conceivable effect on a European site	3d) Make provision for change but would have no significant effect – minor residual effect	3e) Effects on European site cannot be identified
Rural Development Outcomes								
Rural Development Outcome 1- The Parks towns and villages are enhanced through investment in their built and historic environment,	RDP1 - Delivery of the key sites and infrastructure in Arrochar, Balloch, Callander as well as villages identified as Placemaking Priorities identified in LIVEPark, the National Park's Local Development Plan (LDP).		Screen out as the proposals are not generated by the plan subject to the appraisal – part of LDP.					

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
public spaces and infrastructure.	RDP2 - Supporting appropriate public realm improvement where strategic roads pass through tourism destinations, including A84 through Callander, and A82 through Tarbet, Balloch Station area and the A83 through Arrochar.					Screen out as proposals within Callander, Tarbet, Balloch, Arrochar have no conceivable link to any European sites.		
	RDP3 - Conserving and enhancing the built and historic environment in all towns and villages, including supporting the repair and restoration of traditional and landmark buildings.			Screen out as intended to conserve and enhance the environment. Also no conceivable link to any sites.				

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	RDP4 - Supporting increased or improved active travel options within and between communities.							Screen out as action too general and it is not possible to identify where the active travel improvements will be made.
	RDP5 - Adapting to and building resilience against the effects of climate change such as flooding in towns and villages and encouraging high quality, sustainable new development and design that reinforces local distinctiveness and embodies low and zero carbon technologies.				Screen out as criteria basis for development to create buildings that can cope with climate change.			
Rural Development Outcome 2 - The rural economy has been strengthened	RDP6 - Support businesses to be more resilient towards climate change and to move towards a lower carbon economy.				Screen out as action does not lead to development or any change.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
through sustainable business growth and diversification.	RDP7 - Encourage greater energy efficiency and appropriate renewable energy generation with focus on small scale, low carbon opportunities.		Screen out - renewable Energy proposals would be controlled via the LDP which has been subject to a HRA.					
	RDP8 - Support land based rural businesses to diversify/expand and deliver multiple benefits including implementing existing and considering the potential for new Rural Development Frameworks (RDF).		Screen out as RDFs have been subject to HRA as part of LDP.					
	RDP9 - Workspace provision and support opportunities for new business start-ups and growth, including more focused rural business support and digital hubs.				Screen out as action does not lead to development or any change.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	RDP10 - Improved broadband and mobile coverage/speed via current and emerging investment programs.							Screen out as how and where any new telecoms infrastructure is to be developed is unknown.
Rural Development Outcome 3 - Population decline is being addressed by attracting and retaining more skilled working age and young people within the National Park.	RDP11 - Identification of skill gaps, provision of training and skills development support				Screen out as action does not lead to development or any change.			
	RDP12 - Linking education provides with local businesses and employers.				Screen out as action does not lead to development or any change.			
	RDP13 - Supporting and delivering NPA requirements under Development Young Workforce agenda.				Screen out as action does not lead to development or any change.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	RDP14 - Continued investment in affordable housing provision, identification of new delivery models and support to communities and landowners to provide affordable self-build and private rent options.		Screen out – as affordable housing delivery is part of the LDP. Also, not location specific and does not lead to development.					
	RDP15 - Through Community Planning Partnerships, supporting local service delivery and safeguarding rural facilities, including improving public transport links in and around the National Park.				Screen out - Action does not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
Rural Development Outcome 4 - The Park's communities are supported to influence and deliver actions that improve their quality of life and place.	RP16 - Maintaining good organisational capacity (governance, training, support, mentoring, volunteering and networking within and between communities) to enable communities to realise opportunities arising from land reform and community empowerment agendas, as well as potential changes that may arise from the review of the Scottish planning system.				Screen out - Action does not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria.			
	RP17 - Establishing a coordinated approach to community planning - including Local Action Planning - Support to communities to be involved in decisions affecting local service delivery.				Screen out - Action does not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	RP18 - Support communities to develop and lead on project delivery and village enhancements and to own and manage assets (including income generation and social enterprise opportunities).				Screen out - Action does not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria.			
	RP19 - Support delivery of Callander Landscape Partnership.				Screen out - Action does not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
Visitor Experience Outcomes								
Visitor Experience Outcome 1 - Range of Outdoor Recreation Opportunities The National Park has a wide variety of well promoted and managed outdoor recreation opportunities providing for a range of abilities and interests.	VEP1 - Ensure that National Park Core Paths are reviewed and fit for purpose.				Screen out - Action does not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria.			
	VEP2 - Support mountains and people – restore 22 mountain paths and deliver training and volunteering opportunities.							Screen out as action too general and it is not possible to identify where the paths are to be located and on which sites.

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	VE3 - Enable Callander Landscape Partnership to secure funding to invest in recreational routes and improvements to the landscape surrounding the town.							Screen out as action too general and it is not possible to identify where the paths are to be located and on which sites.
	VEP4 - Deliver new model to managing, maintaining and increasing the economic benefits of the West Highland Way as Scotland's premiere long distance route, alongside promoting other long distance routes crossing the National Park.						Screen out as works are maintenance only and there would be no significant effect on Loch Lomond SAC and River Tay SAC which the path runs through/next to and hence a minor residual effect.	

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	VEP5 - Promoting the use and improvement of the National Walking and Cycling Network including new active travel linkages between communities as well as routes facilitating active travel into the Park and better linkages with existing transport hubs and routes.		Screen out as but screened out as national routes as proposals within the National Planning Framework.					
	VEP6 - Enable development of Cross-Scotland Pilgram's way as a national development by connecting up the Tyndrum to St Fillans section passing through the National Park.		Screen out as but screened out as national routes as proposals within the National Planning Framework.					Also, most of route unknown apart from section that has planning permission between Crainlarich and Tyndrum subject to project level HRA.

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
Visitor Experience Outcome 2 – - Increase in water recreation opportunities There are more opportunities to enjoy water-based recreation and	VEP7 - Ensuring larger lochs are managed to support and facilitate both water craft and other recreational users, while maximising safety of all users and protecting the quality water environment.							Screen out as increase recreational activity on lochs and rivers is too general and where effects may occur are unknown for the River SACs and Loch SPA.

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
sporting activities across the Park's lochs, rivers and coasts.	VEP8 - Contribute to delivering the Scottish Marine Tourism Strategy by securing investment in more publically accessible boating and recreational facilities such as piers, pontoons and moorings for a range of users on Loch Lomond, Loch Long and Loch Earn.							Screen out as the location of any new piers/pontoons or other infrastructure is unknown. Any piers/pontoons located near to and within a SPA or SAC would be screened at project-level as works would require planning permission.

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	VEP9 - Continuing to improve and develop Waterbus network on Loch Lomond and Loch Katrine and enabling opportunities on Loch Long.					Screen out - Waterbus routes may increase on the Lochs, inc near to Loch Lomond SPA and Endrick Water SAC. The by- laws mean boats cannot travel any faster than 11kph and the loch is patrolled. Therefore, no conceivable effect on a European site within Loch Lomond as no link or pathway between the waterbus routes and the SPAs/SACs.		

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	VE10 - Providing facilities and promoting services, locations and itineraries that encourage established and emerging forms of water recreation such as fishing, kayaking, open water swimming and board sports.							Screen out as increase recreational activity on lochs and rivers are too general and where effects may occur are unknown.
Visitor Experience Outcome 3 – Thriving Visitor Economy The Park’s visitor economy is thriving with more businesses working together to	VE11 – Encouraging and supporting new and established tourism businesses to innovate and collaborate on growth markets in walking, cycling, canoeing, camping, campervans, nature based tourism, marine tourism, food and drink, business tourism.				Screen out - Action does not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
create a world class destination.	VEP12 – Encouraging partner and private sector investment on recreation activity offerings, identifying where publically owned land can accommodate recreation activity providers and tourism investment, a wider range of accommodation offerings including lower cost provision associated with recreation pursuits and overnight facilities for campervans, Attracting and growing signature events such as Great Scottish Swim and capitalising on hosting the 2018 European Open Water Swimming Championships.				Screen out - Action does not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	VEP13 - Make it easier to find what the National Park has to offer and for businesses to grow and collaborate by: facilitating better joined up, consistent visitor information, investing in digital visitor information provision and contemporary marketing that leverages against the established National Park brand, continue efforts to secure Superfast Broadband, public Wi-Fi and mobile telephone network coverage which are essential to most businesses and visitors. Deliver improved visitor welcomes at railway stations and stronger links to onward journeys in the Park, priority Balloch and Tarbet and improving visitor info at strategic transport hubs.				Screen out - Action does not lead to development or other change because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria.			
Visitor Experience Outcome 4 – Visitor Management at Key Areas - The most	VEP14 - Ensuring the Camping Management Zones support improvements to the environment and visitor experience through providing sustainable levels of camping and camper van use alongside other visitor activities.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
popular parts of the National Park are well managed to ensure that the quality of environment, visitor experience and community life are protected and enhanced.	VEP15 - Agreeing an approach to ensuring the sustainable and responsible use of Loch Lomond Islands.			Screen out - In relation to responsible use of the islands – this is a positive effect on islands Loch Lomond Woodlands SAC.				
	VEP16 - Strengthen efforts to prevent and manage litter more effectively, including marine litter on Loch Long.			Screen out - Litter management again has a positive effect and Loch Long is not a European site.				
	VEP17 - Develop parking and traffic management measures to our busiest visitor destinations.				Screen out as will not result in any development as it is in relation to management measures.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	VE18 - Deliver educational campaigns with partners promoting responsible enjoyment of the Park's environment, including safe use of its road network.							
Visitor Experience Outcome 5 – Health and Outreach People from a wider range of backgrounds are enjoying, valuing and helping manage the National Park. It is used more as a place for people to realise the personal health and well-being benefits of connecting with nature.	VEP21 - Engaging with Health Partnerships to explore how the National Park can be used as a resource to support health improvement initiatives and strengthen links to health focused activities such as health walk, outdoor learning and volunteering programs as well as sports hubs, award schemes, outdoor activity providers, active travel opportunities and park mobility.				Screen out as will not result in any development as in relation to partnership working.			
	VE22 - Increase opportunities for engagement, volunteering and education activities especially for young people those who are experiencing disadvantage or have difficulty in accessing the National Park.				Screen out as will not result in any development as in relation to engagement, education and volunteering.			

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
Conservation Outcomes								
Conservation Outcome 1 - The Park's natural resources are enhanced for future generations: important habitats are restored and better connected on a landscape scale.	CP1 (a) Woodlands - Support land managers to target sparse woodland cover and help restore native upland woodland and scrub habitats, along burns and lochs in the glens of the Park.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				
	CP1 (b) Wetlands - Work with partners to restore naturally functioning river and loch systems by taking a catchment approach to tackling diffuse pollution, improving water quality, flows, wetland habitats, encourage natural flood management solutions, using demonstration projects such as Strathard Landscape Initiative.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				
	CP2 (a) - Species - Tackling and reducing impacts on non-native species such as rhododendron ponticum, himalayan balsam, and grey squirrels.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	CP2 (b) Flagship species - use species to help engage people with the natural environment and benefits it brings. Use red squirrel, black grouse, brown trout, and gannet.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				
Conservation Outcome 2 - The Park's special landscape qualities and sense of place are conserved and enhanced with more opportunities to enjoy and experience them.	CP3 - Conserve and enhance qualities of wildness, cultural heritage features, tranquility, dark skies by providing specialist advice on developments and projects which impact on these qualities and by supporting targeted projects which enhance them.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				
	CP4 - Support project that enhance opportunities to enjoy landscape particularly along major transport routes and around towns/villages - such as scenic route projects and enhancing iconic views. Priorities include upgrade of A82 between Tarbet and Inverarnan and Rest and Be Thankful landslip management.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
	CP5 - Landscape enhancements that deliver improvements for nature such as woodland, wetland creation, tackling non-natives.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				
	CP6 - Safeguard and restore tranquil loch shores through Your Park and Respect Initiatives.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				
Conservation Outcome 3 - The natural environment of the Park is better managed to help mitigate and address the impacts of climate change.	CP7 - Focus on working with partners and communities to build resilience and mitigate climate change impacts by collaborating land use and water management initiatives - natural flood management, woodland enhancement, peatland restoration projects upstream from flood risk communities of Aberfoyle and Callander			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				
	CP8 - Collaborate on land use and water management initiatives -implementation of the Clyde and Loch Lomond, Forth and Tay Flood Risk Management Plans.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				

Outcomes	Priorities	1)	2)	3a)	3b)	3c)	3d)	3e)
Conservation Outcome 4 - New catchment scale partnerships deliver better integrated management of the land and water environment, providing multiple benefits for people and nature.	CP9 - Lead the way on new Government policy of creating new Regional Land Use Partnerships across the National Park. We will do this by facilitating new land use at catchment scales and across land ownerships to deliver stewardship of land and water across public, private and community owned land.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				
	CP10 - Support Deer Management Groups to achieve sustainable, long term deer impact management in the Park, through the development of Deer Management plans and associated Habitat Impact Assessments, focusing efforts on areas with adverse grazing impacts.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				
	CP11 - Support Land managers to plan and deliver multiple environmental and social benefits, alongside economic return through the creation and delivery of Whole Farm and Estate Management Plans.			Screen out as intended to conserve the natural heritage.				