



**Planning Guidance –  
Sustainable and Active Travel  
Safeguarding Policies  
Visitor Experience Update**

**Habitats Regulations Appraisal**

**November 2021**

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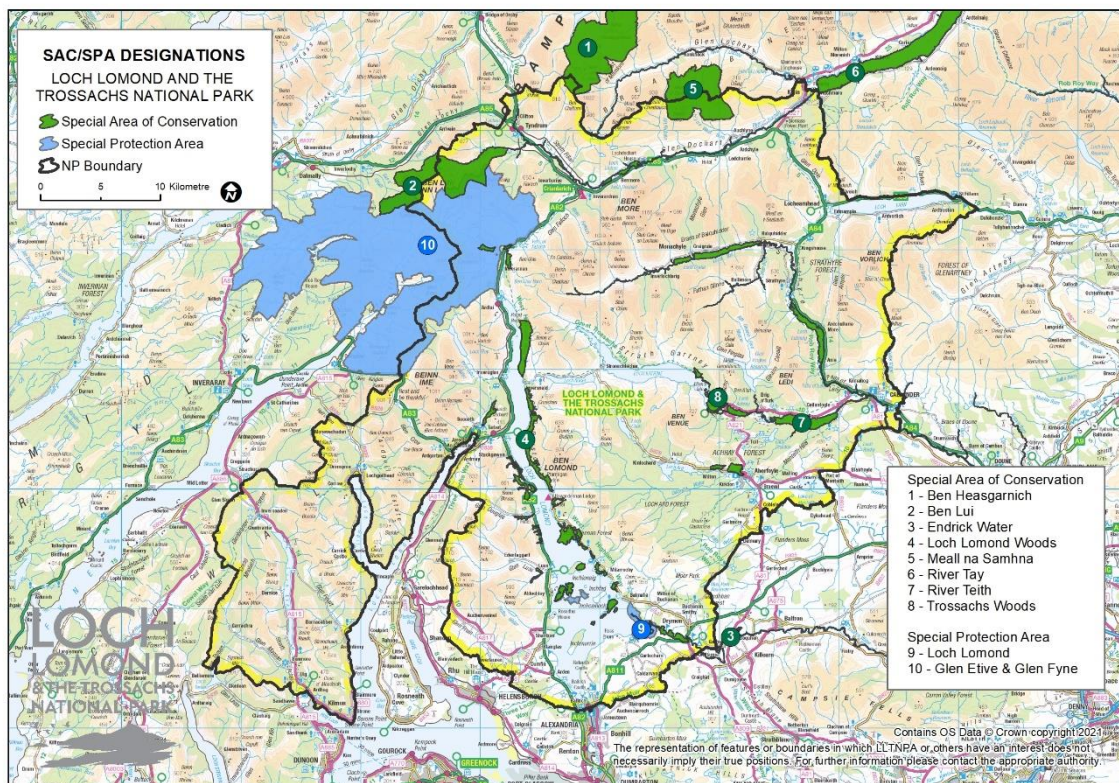
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# 1. Introduction

Natura sites represent the very best of Scotland's nature. Natura is a term given to Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). They were originally designated under European legislations, the Habitats and Bird Directives.

In the National Park there are 10 sites directly within the boundary and a number outside the boundary that may be affected by proposals within the Park. Map 1 shows the location of the National Park's protected sites.

**Map 1: Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas**



## Regulations

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. 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.

## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to undertake a Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) of two new Planning Guidance documents, Sustainable and Active Travel and Safeguarding Policies, and revised Visitor Experience planning guidance. This will determine if there is a significant effect and if an appropriate assessment is required.

## 2. Requirement for a Habitat Regulation Appraisal

For us to approve and adopt the guidance, we have to be certain, as the responsible authority, that there is no adverse effect on the integrity of the European sites. The stages include:

**Stage 1** - To determine the guidance need to be subject to an appraisal

**Stage 2, 3, 4** – Identify the European sites that should be considered, gather information about the sites and scope the method of the appraisal.

**Stage 5, 6, 7** - The screening process to determine whether an appropriate assessment is required, and applying mitigation measures to avoid likely significant effects and rescreen the plan if necessary.

**Stage 8 and 9** - Any appropriate assessment if it is required and amending the guidance until there is no adverse effects on site integrity.

The stages listed above summarises those listed in the [Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans: Guidance for plan-making bodies in Scotland](#) (NatureScot, Jan 2015) which has been followed in this appraisal.

The report has concluded in this case that the new and revised Planning Guidance need to be subject to an appraisal and this screening process determined that an appropriate assessment was not required. The reasons for reaching this conclusion are set out in this appraisal in the next section of this appraisal.

These Planning Guidance documents provide further detail to policies included in the adopted Local Development Plan 2016-2021. The Planning Guidance is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European sites. The guidance does not promote any development within the European sites, however as it will be used to assess development proposals (planning applications), and therefore the Guidance qualifies for the appraisal process as it may result in a significant effect on a European site.

The appraisal process require a screening exercise to be undertaken which will determine if the guidance would result in any significant effects on the European sites, either individually, or in combination with other plans or projects.

### 3. New and updated Planning Guidance - Context

This section includes details of the three Planning Guidance:

- Sustainable and Active Travel Planning Guidance
- Safeguarding Policies Planning Guidance
- updated Visitor Experience Planning Guidance

The guidance will cover a period of 3 years up to 2024 when the next Local Development Plan will be prepared. We, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority are the responsible authority as the planning authority who has prepared the Planning Guidance. The Guidance covers the full extent of the National Park Boundary.

The Local Development Plan 2017-2024 is the parent plan and the policies within that plan have been subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Appraisal as part of its preparation.

#### **Purpose and/or objectives of the Plan:**

- Sustainable and active travel – Planning Guidance  
The sustainable and active travel guidance provides clarification on the use of the Transport Policies within the Local Development Plan.
- Safeguarding Policies – Planning Guidance  
The safeguarding guidance provides clarification on the use of various policies on protecting the change of use of retail, community, tourism and business. It is additional guidance to what is already contained in the Local Development Plan and other plans and strategies. These plans set the statutory policy context for determining applications in this area. These 'parent' plan policies have been subject to SEA and HRA as part of their preparation.
- Updated Visitor Experience – Planning Guidance  
The updated version includes further advice in relation to car park and visitor facilities. It provides design criteria for car parks and provides guidance around on how to interpret the policy.

## 4. Habitats Regulations Appraisal Methodology

### European Sites considered

A list of the 10 European sites that should be considered in the appraisal was identified (**Table 1**) and Table 2 identifies 6 European sites near to the National Park boundary that have been scoped out of the appraisal. There is detailed information on all of the European Sites contained within Appendix 1.

These sites are based on the most up to date designations as of November 2021. Relevant factors were considered such as; the type and scale of actions promoted in the Planning Guidance, the qualifying interests of the European sites and their proximity to the National Park boundary.

**Table 1: European Sites selected as being potentially affected and reasons for their selection**

	European Site	Reason for selection	Summary of Qualifying Interests
<b>Special Areas of Conservation</b>			
1.	Ben Heasgarnich SAC	Inside and outside the National Park boundary	Alpine and montane habitats
2.	Ben Lui SAC	Inside the National Park boundary	Alpine and montane habitats
3.	Endrick Water SAC	Inside and outside the National Park boundary	Lamprey and salmon
4.	Loch Lomond Woods SAC	Inside the National Park boundary	Western acidic oak woodland and otter
5.	Meall na Samnha SAC	Inside and outside the National Park boundary	Alpine and montane habitats
6.	River Tay SAC	Inside and outside the National Park boundary	Lamprey, salmon, otters and clear-water lochs
7.	River Teith SAC	Inside and outside the National Park boundary	Lamprey and salmon
8.	Trossachs Woods SAC	Inside the National Park boundary	Western acidic oak woodland
<b>Special Protection Areas</b>			
9.	Loch Lomond SPA	Inside the National Park boundary	Capercaillie and Greenland white-fronted goose

	European Site	Reason for selection	Summary of Qualifying Interests
<b>Special Areas of Conservation</b>			
10.	Glen Etive and Glen Fyne SPA	Inside and outside the National Park boundary	Golden eagles

**Table 2: European Sites Scoped Out of the Appraisal**

European Site	Reason for Scoping Out <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Ben Lawers SAC</b>	The SAC lies around 2.5km north of the National Park boundary. Given the separation distance between the National Park and the SAC, no policies or opportunities identified in new and updated Planning Guidance will give rise to a likely significant effect on the qualifying interests of the SAC.
<b>Flanders Mosses SAC</b>	Although part of the SAC lies adjacent to the National Park boundary, there is no possibility of downstream effects on the SAC as the active and degraded raised bog qualifying interests of the site are ombrotrophic (rain-fed).
<b>Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA</b>	The estuary is too far downstream of the National Park to be affected by any changes in water quality as a result of policies or opportunities identified in new and updated Planning Guidance. In addition, the River Tay SAC lies upstream of this site and any potential impacts on water quality are assessed through consideration of the River Tay SAC in this HRA.
<b>Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC</b>	The estuary is too far downstream of the National Park to be affected by any changes in water quality as a result of policies or opportunities identified in new and updated Planning Guidance. In addition, the River Tay SAC lies upstream of this site and any potential impacts on water quality are assessed through consideration of the River Tay SAC in this HRA.
<b>Firth of Forth SPA</b>	The estuary is too far downstream of the National Park to be affected by any changes in water quality as a result of

	<p>policies or opportunities identified in new and updated Planning Guidance. In addition, the River Teith SAC lies upstream of this site and any potential impacts on water quality are assessed through consideration of the River Teith SAC in this HRA.</p>
<b>Forth Islands SPA</b>	<p>The islands are too far downstream of the National Park and with too strong a maritime influence to be affected by any changes in water quality as a result of policies or opportunities identified in new and updated Planning Guidance. In addition, the River Teith SAC lies upstream of this site and any potential impacts on water quality are assessed through consideration of the River Teith SAC in this HRA.</p>
<b>Inner Clyde SPA</b>	<p>The estuary is too far downstream of the National Park to be affected by any changes in water quality as a result of policies or opportunities identified in new and updated Planning Guidance.</p>



## 5. Screening for potential effects

Having gathered information on the European sites potentially affected by the planning guidance as set out in Table 1 this section now considers the potential likely significant effects on the sites. The screening process involves screening out general policy statements and projects that are referred to but not proposed by the plan and change that relate to design and qualitative criteria.

### Sustainable and Active Travel Planning Guidance

Each of the following sections of the Planning Guidance have been screened:

- **Purpose and introduction** – This section is a general policy statement about national legislation so is screened out.
- **What is active and sustainable travel?** – This section is an explanatory section with no projects so is screened out.
- **How a proposal can make a positive contribution?** – This section covers requirements to meet Transport Policy 2. This policy has been screened as part of the Local Development Plan 2017-2021 and it was screened out as “the policy was too general and it was not known where or when or how the proposal will be implemented or where effects may occur and where sites if any may be effected.” Even though this section provides qualitative criteria that make provision for change the same conclusion is reached that it is not known where or when or how these proposals such as new walking and cycling routes, parking spaces for cycles, bus routes/bus stops, EV vehicle charging points will take place. In addition, many of these proposals will take place on existing developed land such as car parks. Therefore this section has been screened out as any effects cannot be identified because the guidance is too general and it is not possible to identify where, when or how the policy may be implemented.
- **Transport Assessment and Travel Plan Guide** – These section covers requirement to meet Transport Policy 3. This policy was also screened out as “the policy was too general and it was not known where or when or how the proposal will be implemented or where effects may occur and where sites if any may be effected.” This section of the Guidance provides guidance to developers on what this supporting information should contain. It does not lead to development or other change as it relates to qualitative criteria/requirements so therefore is screened out.

Each section of the Sustainable and Active Travel Planning Guidance has been screened out, as explained above, and it is concluded that there would be no potential likely significant effects on any European sites.

### Safeguarding Local Facilities Planning Guidance

Each of the following sections of the Planning Guidance have been screened:

- **Purpose and introduction** – This section is a general policy statement about national legislation so is screened out.

- **Why safeguard uses?** – This section explains the reason for the safeguarding policies and for community facilities there is a list the types of uses that is covered by this policy. It relates to existing buildings and premises and therefore there is no conceivable effect on a European site so can be screened out.
- **When is change of use application required?** – This section explains what triggers a change of use and refers to Appendix 1 that provides further details of the permitted development regulations. This is explained existing legislation and will not have a significant effect on a European site so can be screened out.
- **Supporting information requirements** – This is the key section of the guidance setting clear guidance as to what supporting information developers must submit. It provides clarity of how to meet the policies. It is list of criteria and will not have a conceivable effect on a European site so can be screened out.
- **Appendix – Class Use Order** – This sets out existing legislation and what policies apply and will have no effect on a European site so can be screened out.

Each section of this Safeguarding Policy Planning Guidance has been screened out, as explained above and it is concluded that there would be no potential likely significant effects on any European sites.

#### Visitor experience update

This guidance has been updated and the new sections on car parks and visitor facilities provides design criteria and explains what is considered small-scale. So as it relates to design or other qualitative criteria for development and the guidance in itself will not lead to development then the changes to this guidance can be screened out.

In conclusion the revised Visitor Experience Planning Guidance has been screened out, as explained above and it is concluded that there would be no potential likely significant effects on any European sites.

#### **In-combination with other relevant Plans or Projects**

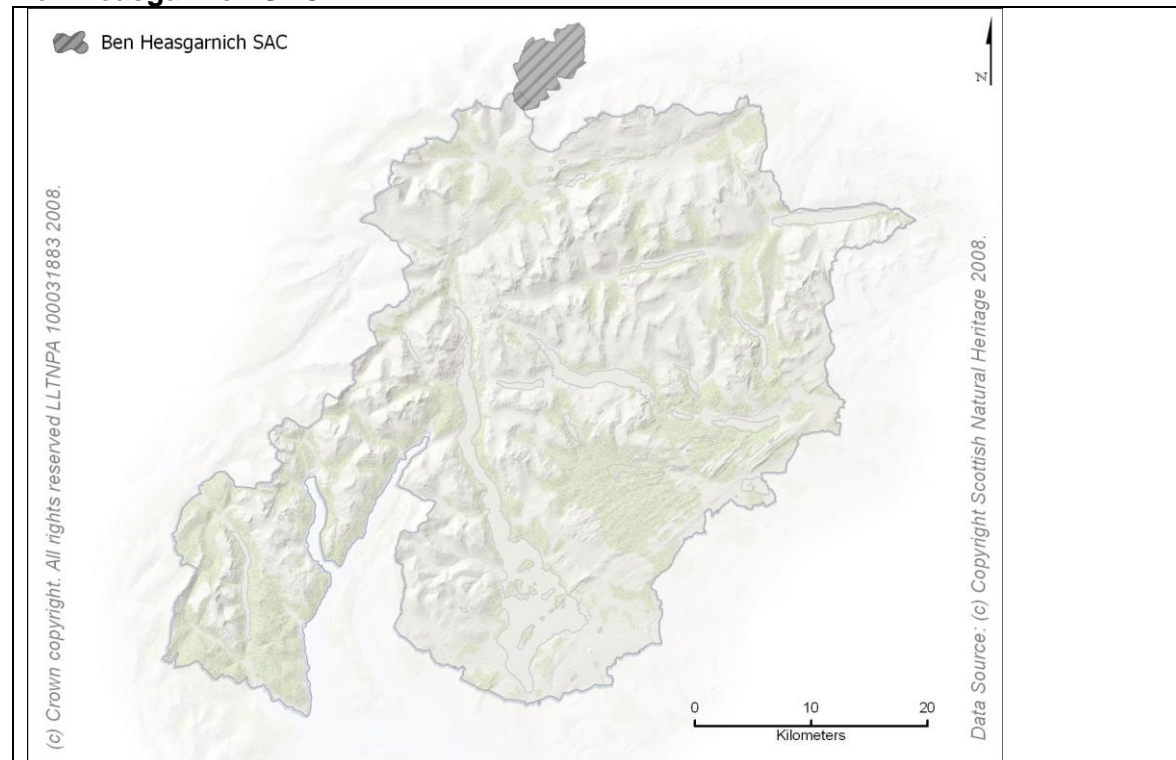
In line with NatureScot guidance, elements of the new and updated Planning Guidance that have individually been screened out because they will have no effect on a European site or because that element is too general in nature, do not require an in-combination assessment. This is also the case for those elements of the new and updated Planning Guidance that have been screened out above. As a consequence, an in-combination assessment is not required for the new and updated Planning Guidance.

## **6. Conclusion to screening**

The new and updated Planning Guidance have been screened out as having no likely significant effect on European sites, either alone and in combination. As a result, there is no requirement to undertake an Appropriate Assessment.

## Appendix 1 - Information on European Sites

### Ben Heasgarnich SAC



#### Qualifying Interests:

- 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
- 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:

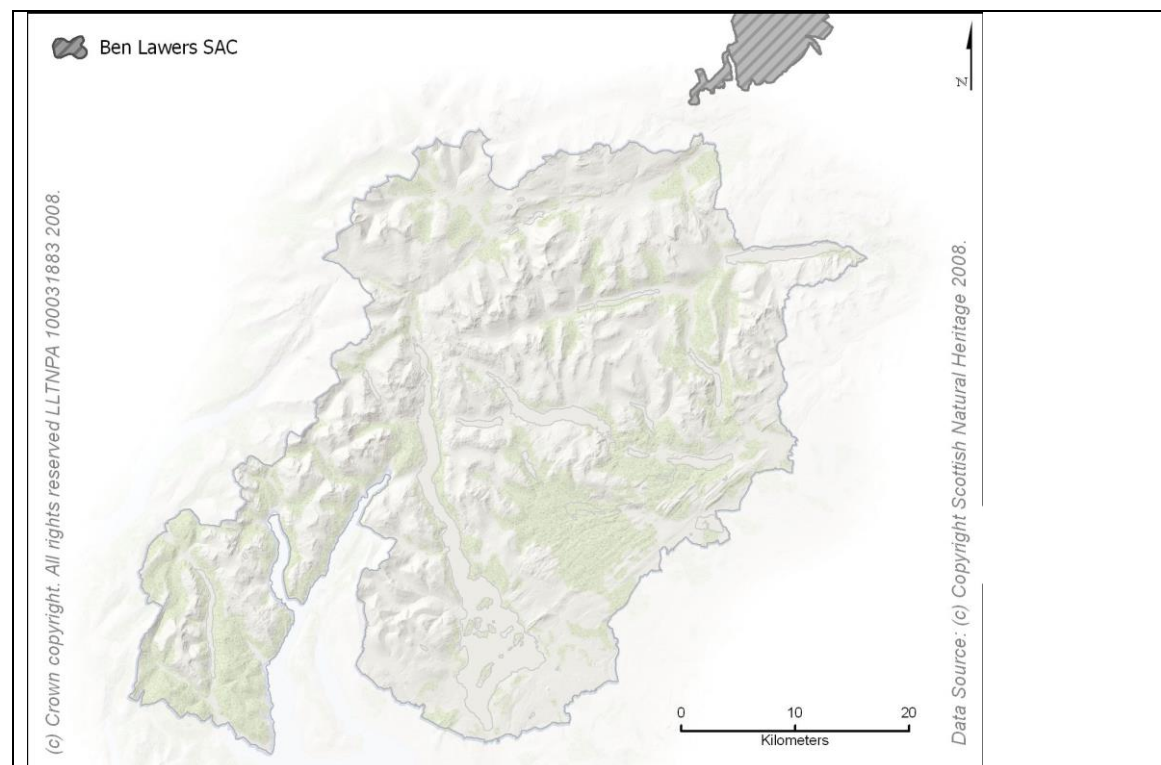
To avoid deterioration of the qualifying **habitats** (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

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

## Ben Lawers SAC



### Qualifying Interest(s):

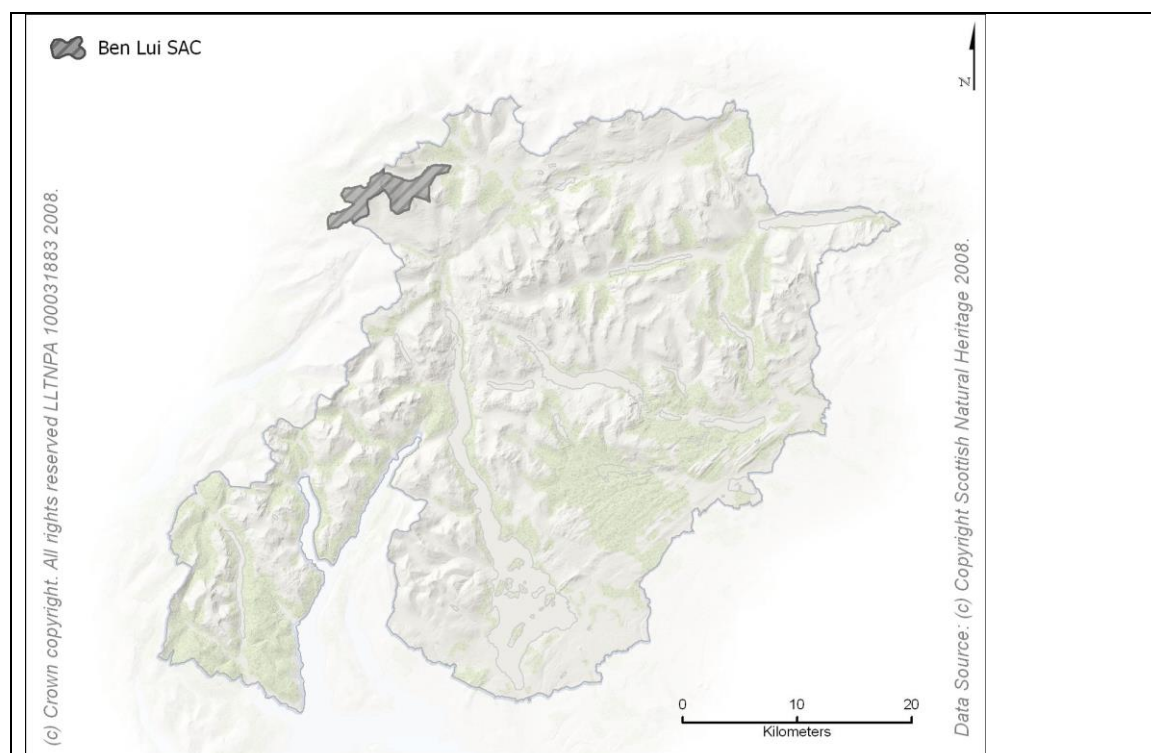
- Base-rich fens (Alkaline fens)
- Alpine and subalpine heaths (Alpine and Boreal heaths)
- Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands
- High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage\* (Alpine pioneer formations of the *Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae*\*)
- Blanket bog \* *\*Indicates priority habitat*
- 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

### Ben Lui SAC



#### Qualifying Interest(s):

- 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 ladanii*))
- 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)

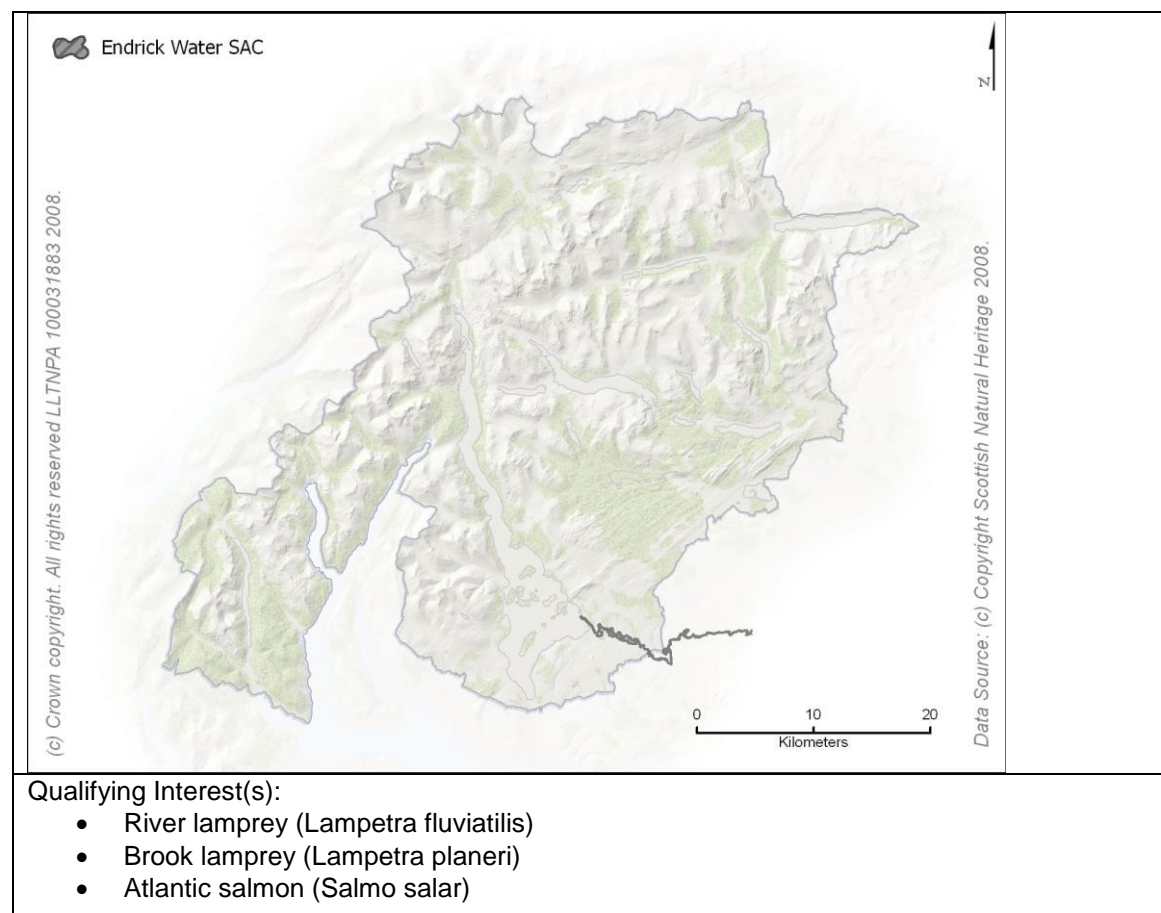
**Conservation Objectives:**

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

## Endrick Water SAC



**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

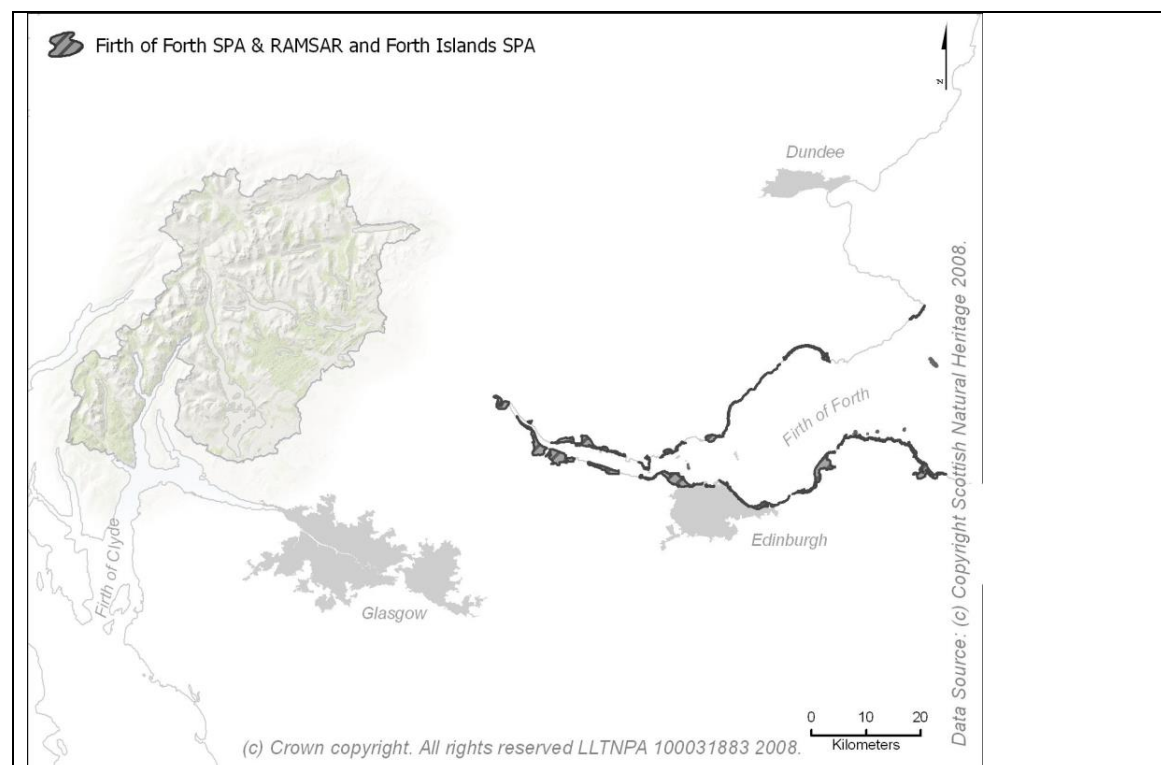
To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- 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*



## Forth Islands SPA



### 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:

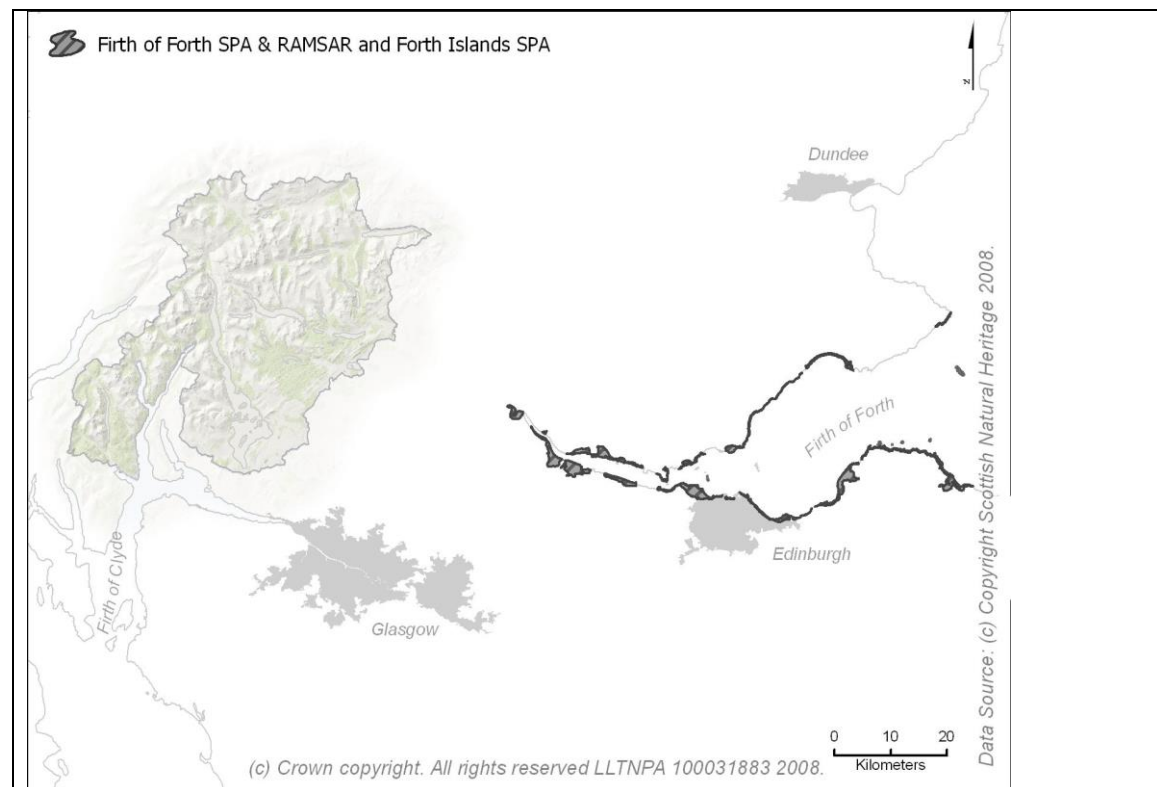
To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- 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.



## Firth of Forth SPA



### 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:**

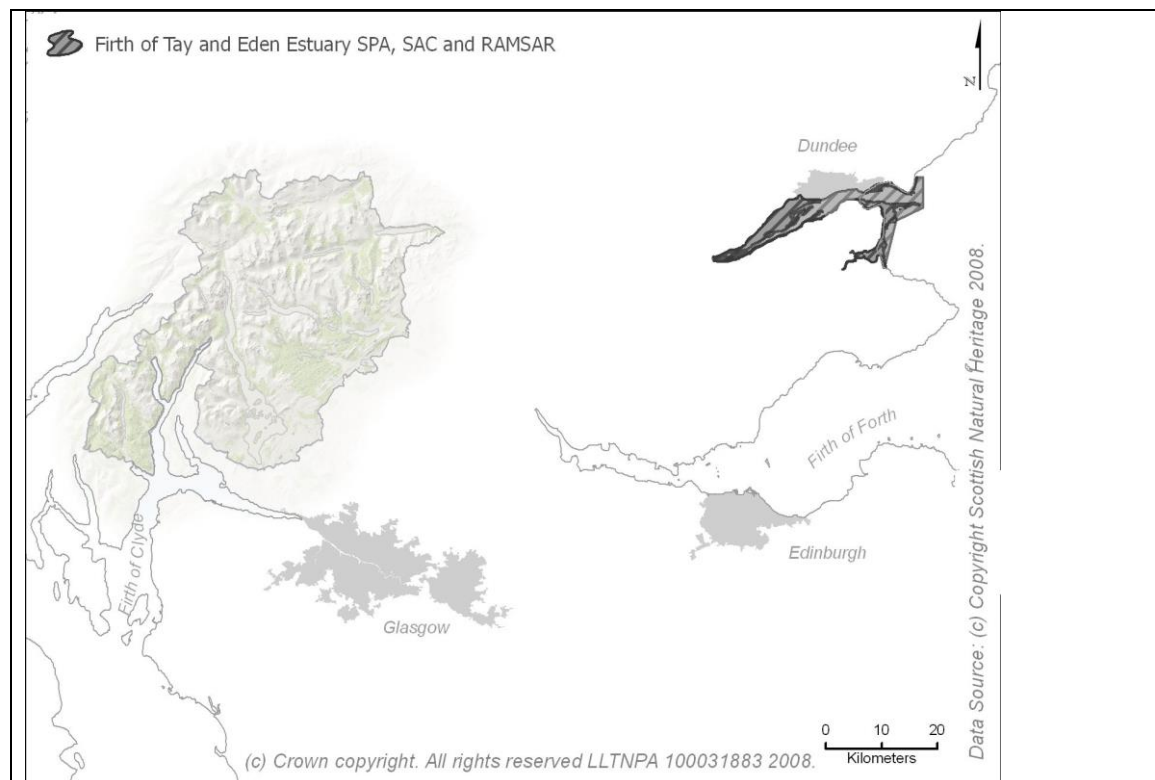
To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and

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



**Qualifying Interest(s):**

**Habitats**

- Estuaries
- Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide
- Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time

**Species**

- Common seal (*Phoca vitulina*)

#### 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:

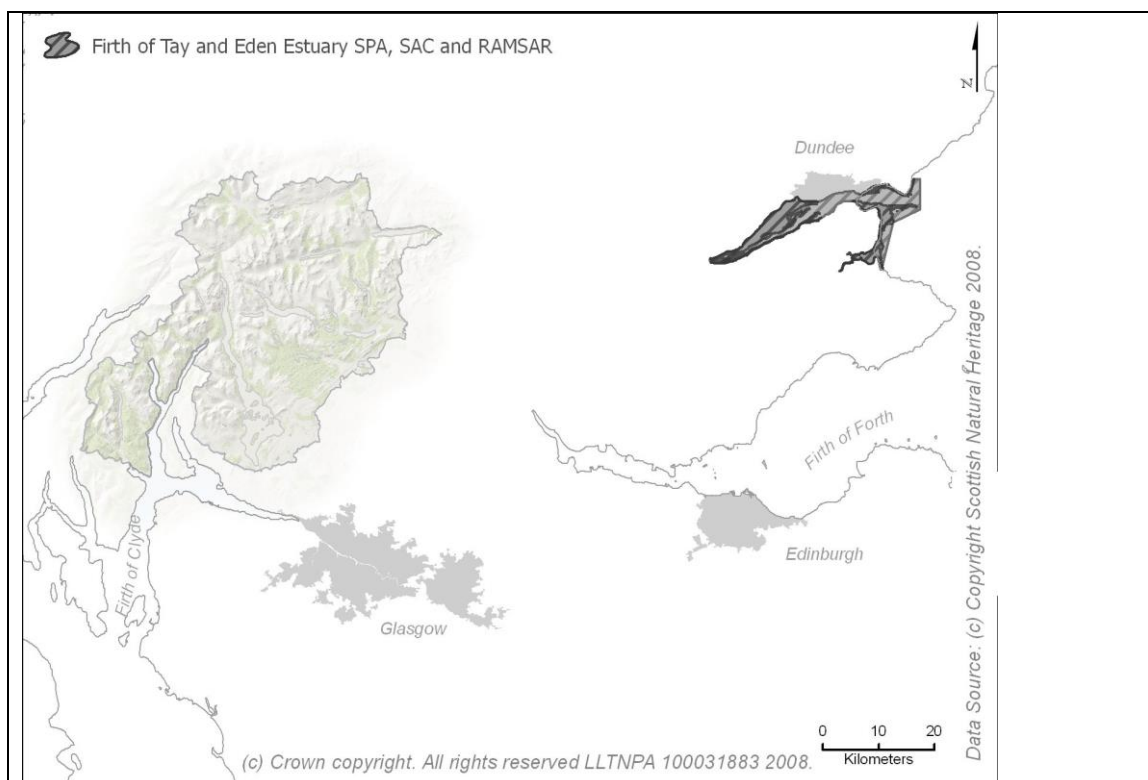
- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species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

- 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 Tay and Eden Estuary SPA



#### Site description:

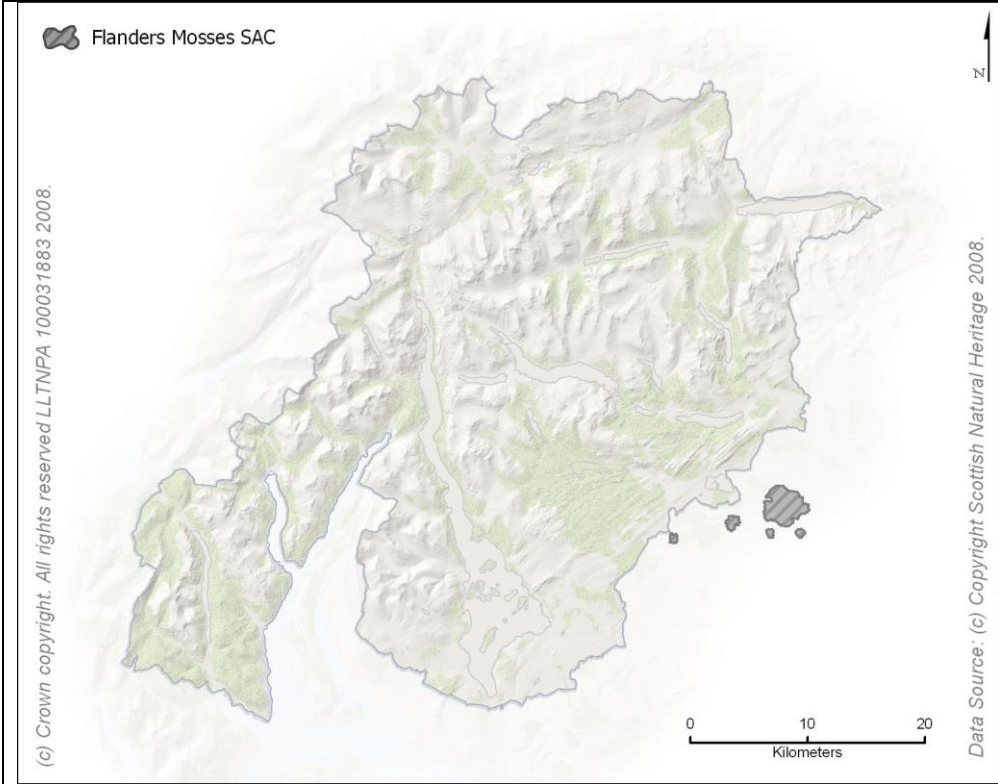
##### Qualifying interest(s):

- Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) (internationally important wintering population)
- Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) (internationally important wintering population)
- Anser anser• Little tern (*Sterna albifrons*) (Nationally important breeding populations)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marsh harrier (<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>) (Nationally important breeding populations)</li> </ul> <p>Supporting in winter over 20,000 waterfowl including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>)*</li> <li>• Common scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>)*</li> <li>• Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)*</li> <li>• Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>)*</li> <li>• Eider (<i>Somateria mollissima</i>)*</li> <li>• Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>)*</li> <li>• Goosander (<i>Mergus merganser</i>)*</li> <li>• Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)*</li> <li>• Greylag goose</li> <li>• Long-tailed duck (<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>)*</li> <li>• Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)*</li> <li>• Pink-footed goose (<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>)</li> <li>• Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>)*</li> <li>• Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>)*</li> <li>• Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)</li> <li>• Velvet scoter (<i>Melanitta fusca</i>)*</li> <li>• Waterfowl Assemblage</li> </ul>
<p>Conservation Objectives:</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population of the species as a viable component of the site</li> <li>• Distribution of the species within site</li> <li>• Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of the species</li> </ul>

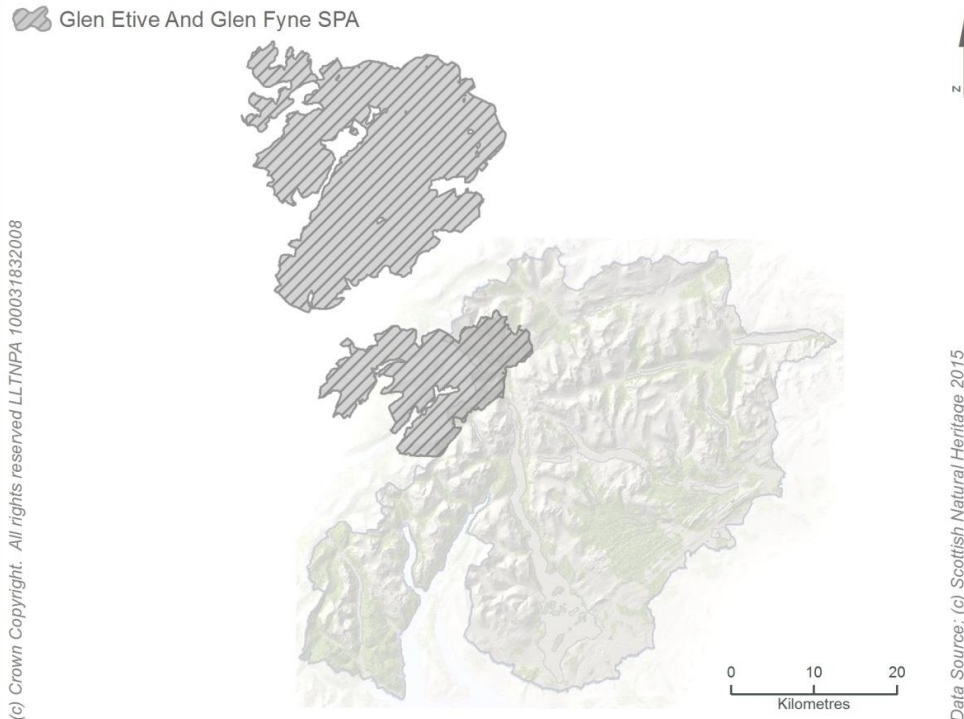
\*Indicates assemblage qualifier only

## Flanders Mosses SAC

	
<p>Qualifying Interest(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active raised bogs</li> <li>• Degraded raised bog (Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration)</li> </ul>	
<p>Conservation Objectives:</p> <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"> <li>• Extent of the habitat on site</li> <li>• Distribution of the habitat within site</li> <li>• Structure and function of the habitat</li> <li>• Processes supporting the habitat</li> <li>• Distribution of typical species of the habitat</li> <li>• Viability of typical species as components of the habitat</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>	
<p>Qualifying Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active raised bogs*</li> <li>• Degraded raised bogs</li> </ul>	

\* Indicates priority habitat

## Glen Etive and Glen Fyne SPA

	<p><b>Site Description:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Qualifying Interest:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports a population golden eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation Objectives</b> 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"> <li>• Population of the species as a viable component of the site</li> <li>• Distribution of the species within site</li> <li>• Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats</li> <li>• supporting the species</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of the species</li> </ul>
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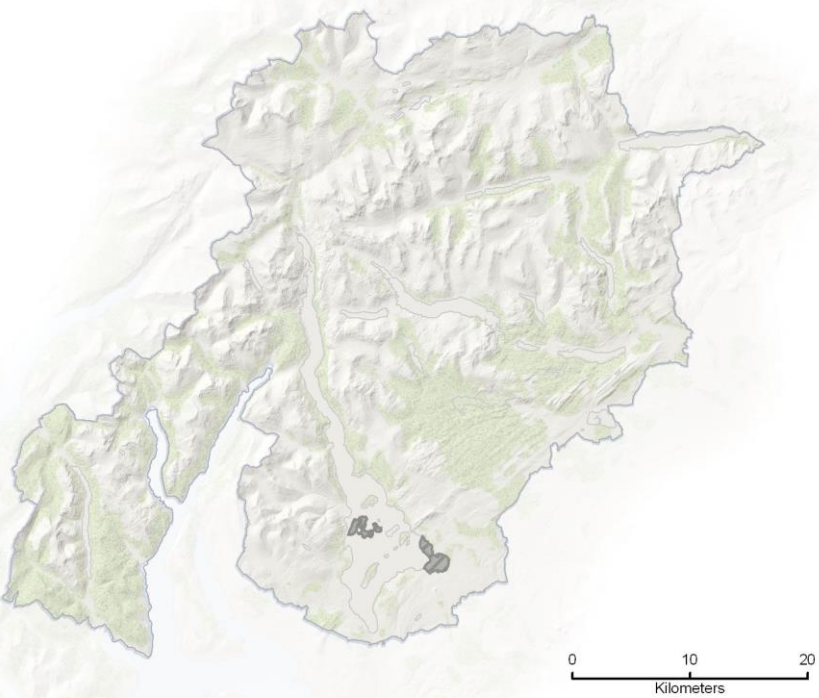
*This site overlaps with the following Special Areas of Conservation (SAC): Ben Lui, Glen Coe, Glen Creran Woods, Loch Etive Woods, Loch Lomond Woods, Rannoch Moor, River Tay and Glen Shira & also overlaps with Rannoch Lochs Special Protection Area (SPA).*



## Inner Clyde SPA

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	<p>Data Source: (c) Copyright Scottish Natural Heritage 2008.</p>
<p><b>Site Description:</b> The Inner Clyde SPA contains extensive intertidal flats which support large numbers of wintering waterfowl.</p> <p><b>Qualifying Interest:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) (wintering population)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Conservation Objectives:</b> 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"> <li>• Population of the species as a viable component of the site</li> <li>• Distribution of the species within site</li> <li>• Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of the species</li> </ul>	

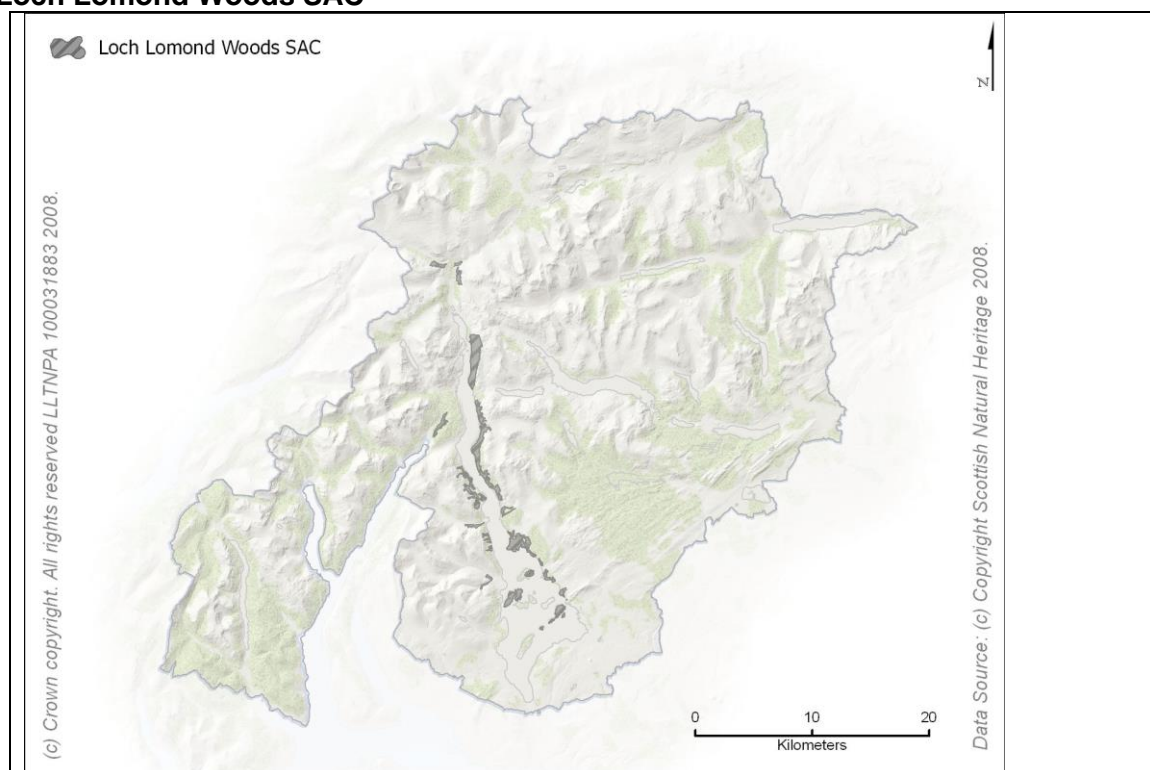
## Loch Lomond SPA

<p>(c) Crown copyright. All rights reserved LLTNP 100031883 2008.</p>	<div data-bbox="284 286 497 318" data-label="Text"> <p> Loch Lomond SPA</p> </div>  <div data-bbox="1209 497 1232 1019" data-label="Text" style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> <p>Data Source: (c) Copyright Scottish Natural Heritage 2008.</p> </div>	
<p><b>Qualifying Interest(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>)</li> <li>• Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>)</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Conservation Objectives:</b></p> <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"> <li>• Population of the species as a viable component of the site</li> <li>• Distribution of the species within site</li> <li>• Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of the species</li> </ul>		

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



## Loch Lomond Woods SAC



### Qualifying Interest(s):

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

### 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

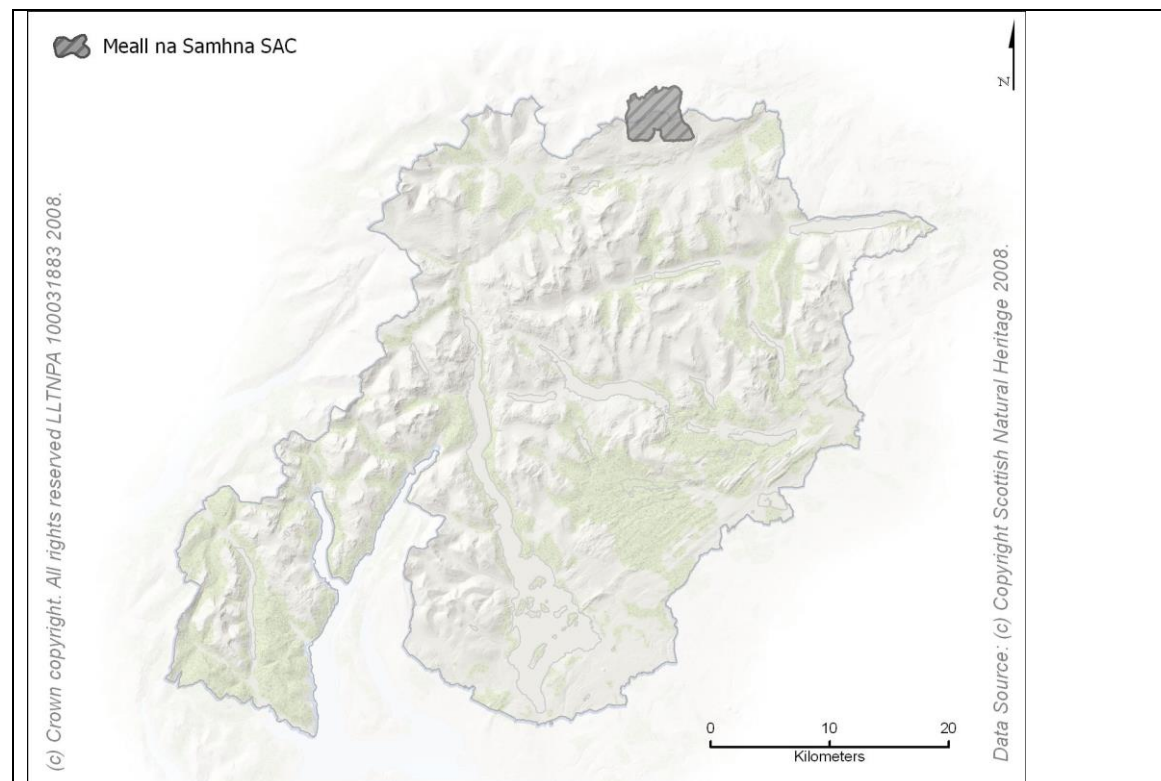
To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying **species** (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the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

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

- Population of the species 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 and Loch Lomond Ramsar Site.*

## Meall na Samhna SAC



### 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:


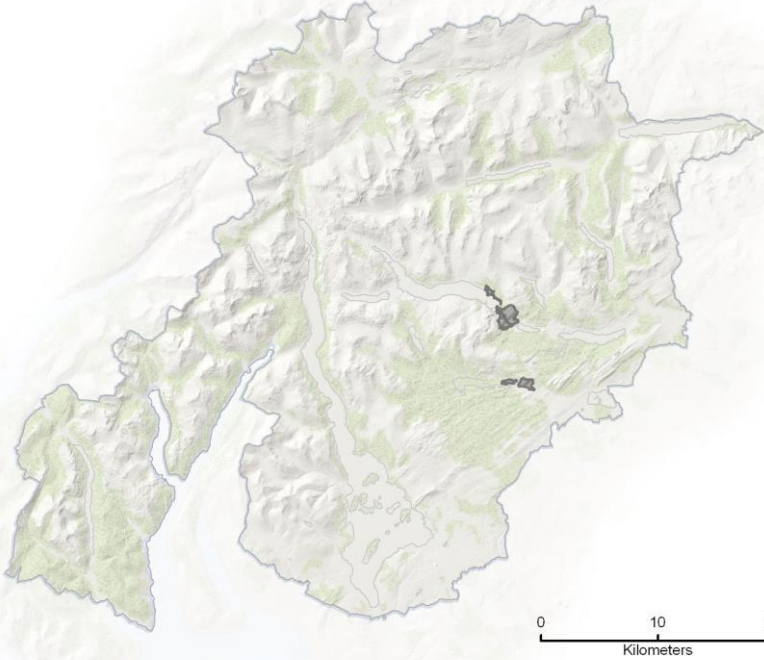
To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed above) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

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

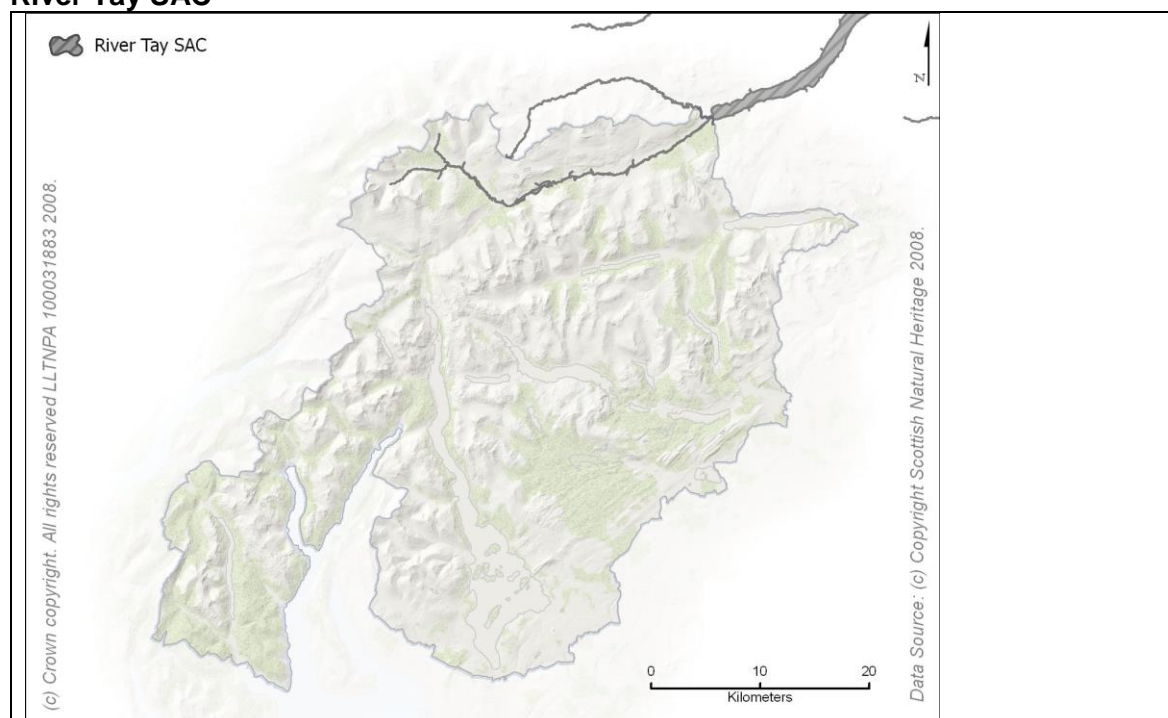
- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species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

\* Indicates priority habitat

## Trossachs Woods SAC

<p>(c) Crown copyright. All rights reserved LLTNP 100031883 2008.</p>		<div data-bbox="276 277 521 309">  Trossachs Woods SAC         </div>  <div data-bbox="1201 488 1225 999" style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">           Data Source: (c) Copyright Scottish Natural Heritage 2008.         </div>
		<p><b>Qualifying Interest(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles)</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation Objectives:</b></p> <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"> <li>Extent of the habitat on site</li> <li>Distribution of the habitat within site</li> <li>Structure and function of the habitat</li> <li>Processes supporting the habitat</li> <li>Distribution of typical species of the habitat</li> <li>Viability of typical species as components of the habitat</li> <li>No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>

## River Tay SAC



### Qualifying Interest(s):

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

### Conservation Objectives:

**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:

- 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:

- 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

<p>River Teith SAC</p> <p>(c) Crown copyright. All rights reserved LLTNP 100031883 2008.</p> <p>Data Source: (c) Copyright Scottish Natural Heritage 2008.</p> <p>0 10 20 Kilometers</p>	
<p><b>Qualifying Interest(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>)</li> <li>• Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>)</li> <li>• Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)</li> <li>• Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Conservation Objectives:</b></p> <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"> <li>• Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site</li> <li>• Distribution of the species within site</li> <li>• Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of the species</li> </ul>	