

ANNEX 8A

Table A8: Designated Sites Within 100km of the Development

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
Figures 8.1 (a-c)				
1	Sanday	SPA, Ramsar SAC, SSSI,	10972 1515	<p>Description The SPA and Ramsar is a 55 km stretch of coast on the island of Sanday in Orkney. The coastline consists of rocky and sandy sections and is notable for the presence of sand dune and machair habitats rare outside the Hebrides as well as extensive intertidal flats and saltmarsh. The site is further characterised by a series of tombolos, bars, spits and shingle ridges. The SPA consists of the East Sanday Coast SSSI, and includes parts of the existing Northwall and Central Sanday SSSIs.</p> <p>Conservation Interests SPA: Purple sandpiper (<i>Calidris maritima</i>), non-breeding, Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), non-breeding, Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>), non-breeding Ramsar: Purple sandpiper (<i>Calidris maritima</i>), non-breeding, Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>), non-breeding SAC: Species: Common seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) SAC: Habitats: Reefs, Subtidal sandbanks, Intertidal mudflats and sandflats SSSI: Specie: Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), non-breeding, Purple sandpiper (<i>Calidris maritima</i>), non-breeding, Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>), non-breeding, Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>), non-breeding, Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>), non-breeding, Common seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>). Geomorphology: Rocky shore, Mudflats, Sandflats. Plant species: Vascular plant assemblage</p>

¹SNH (2011) <http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp>

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2	Calf of Eday	SPA	2668	<p>Description Calf of Eday Special Protection Area (SPA) is a small maritime island to the north of Eday in Orkney. Calf of Eday has a rocky shoreline with cliffs to the north and the west. The island is covered by maritime heath and grassland. The boundary of the SPA encompasses the boundary of the Calf of Eday SSSI, and the seaward extension extends approximately 2 km into the marine environment to include the seabed, water column and surface.</p> <p>Species: Seabird assemblage, breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding, Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding, Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding, Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>), breeding, Great black-backed gull (<i>Larus marinus</i>), breeding.</p>
3	Faray & Holm of Faray	SAC	786	Species: Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
4	Rousay	SPA SSSI	5483 97	<p>Description Rousay is an island off the north-east coast of Mainland, Orkney. The SPA consists of sea cliffs and areas of maritime heath and grassland in the northwest and northeast of the island. The boundary of the Special Protection Area overlaps with the boundary of Rousay SSSI, and the seaward extension extends approximately 2 km into the marine environment to include the seabed, water column and surface.</p> <p>Conservation Interest SPA: Species: Arctic skua (<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>), breeding, Seabird assemblage, breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding, Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>), breeding, Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding, Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding SSSI: Species: Seabird colony, Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>), breeding, Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding, Arctic skua (<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>), breeding. Habitat: blanket bog, subalpine wet heath, mesotrophic loch, maritime cliff and vascular plant assemblage</p>
5	Auskerry	SPA, SSSI	102	Species: Storm Petrel (<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>), breeding, Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>), breeding
6	Copinsay	SPA SSSI	3607	<p>SPA: Species: Seabird assemblage, breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding, Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding, Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding, Great black-backed gull (<i>Larus marinus</i>), breeding SSSI: seabird colony, breeding. Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding.</p>

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
7	Orkney Mainland Moors (West Mainland Moorlands)	SPA SSSI	5342 3310	<p>Description Orkney Mainland Moors Special Protection Area (SPA) comprises four areas of moorland on Mainland, Orkney. The predominant habitats include extensive areas of blanket bog, acid grassland, wet and dry heath, acidic raised-mire and calcareous valley mire. The boundaries of the SPA are coincident with those of West Mainland Moorlands SSSI (including the extension at Sleet Moss), Glims Moss & Durkadale SSSI, Orphir & Stenness Hills SSSI, and Keelylang & Swartabeck Burn SSSI.</p> <p>Conservation Interest SPA: Species: Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding, Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>), breeding, Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>), breeding, SSSI: Species: Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding, Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>), breeding, Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>), breeding, breeding bird assemblage. SSSI: Habitats: Blank Bog, Upland assemblage</p>
8	Loch of Stenness	SAC	792	It is designated as an SAC for the conservation of lagoon habitats.
9	Loch of Isbister	SAC	105	Habitats: Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface Naturally nutrient-rich lakes or lochs which are often dominated by pondweed Species: Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>).
10	Marwick Head	SPA	493	Seabird assemblage, breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding, Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding
11	Stromness Heaths and Coast	SAC	638	Habitats: Dry Heaths, Base rich fens and Vegetated sea cliffs
12	Hoy	SSSI SAC SPA	9,499 9,499 18,122	<p>Description Hoy is a mountainous island at the south-western end of the Orkney archipelago. Hoy SPA covers the northern and western two-thirds of Hoy island, which is formed of Old Red Sandstone and contains Orkney's highest hills, and adjacent coastal waters. The SPA supports an extremely diverse mixture of mire, heath and alpine vegetation and Britain's most northerly native woodland. These upland areas and the high sea cliffs at the coast support an important assemblage of moorland breeding birds and breeding seabirds.</p> <p>Conservation Interest SPA: Bird Species: Arctic skua (<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>), breeding; Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding; Great black-backed gull (<i>Larus marinus</i>), breeding; Great skua (<i>Stercorarius skua</i>), breeding; Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding; Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding; Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>),</p>

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
				breeding; Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>), breeding; Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>), breeding; Seabird assemblage, breeding. SSSI: Bird Species: Arctic skua (<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>), breeding; Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding; Great black-backed gull (<i>Larus marinus</i>), breeding; Great skua (<i>Stercorarius skua</i>), breeding; Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding; Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>), breeding; Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>), breeding; Seabird colony, breeding; Breeding bird assemblage. Habitat: Blanket bog SAC: Habitats: Blanket bog, Dry heaths, Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, Base-rich fens, Hard-water springs depositing lime, Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks, Alpine and subalpine heaths, Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds, Vegetated sea cliffs.
13	Switha	SSSI SPA	57.39	SSSI: Bird Species: Greenland Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>), non-breeding SPA: Bird Species: Greenland Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>), non-breeding
14	Pentland Firth Islands	SSSI SPA	171	SSSI: Bird Species: Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>), breeding. Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage SPA: Bird Species: Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>), breeding.

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
15	North Caithness Cliffs including marine extension	SPA	14,621	<p>Description North Caithness Cliffs SPA is of special nature conservation and scientific importance within Britain and the European Community for supporting very large populations of breeding seabirds. The site overlaps with Duncansby Head SSSI, Stroma SSSI, Dunnet Head SSSI, Holborn Head SSSI, and Red Point Coast SSSI. It qualifies under Article 4.1 by supporting populations of the Annex 1 species: peregrine <i>Falco peregrinus</i> (6 pairs, 0.5% of the GB population). It further qualifies under Article 4.2 by supporting populations of European importance of the migratory species: common guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i> (38,300 individuals, 1% of the North Atlantic biogeographic population). It also qualifies under Article 4.2 by regularly supporting in excess of 20,000 individual seabirds. The site regularly supports 110,000 seabirds including nationally important populations of the following species: Northern fulmar <i>Fulmarus glacialis</i> (14,700 pairs; 3% of the GB population); black-legged kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> (13,100 pairs, 3% of the GB population); common guillemot (38,300 individuals, 4% of the GB population); razorbill <i>Alca torda</i> (4,000 individuals, 3% of the GB population) and Atlantic puffin <i>Fratercula arctica</i> (1,750 pairs, over 10% of the minimum qualifying assemblage of 20,000 individuals).</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests SPA: Bird species: Seabird assemblage, breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding, Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>), breeding, Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>), breeding, Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>), breeding, Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding, Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding.</p>
16	Caithness Lochs	SPA Ramsar	1,379	<p>Description Caithness Lochs are located in lowland Caithness and are comprised of the following lochs; Broubster Leans, Loch of Mey, Loch Calder, Loch Heilen, Loch of Wester, Loch Scarnclate and Loch Watten.</p> <p>SPA: Bird Species: Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>), non-breeding; Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding; Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding</p> <p>Ramsar: Bird Species: Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>), non-breeding; Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding; Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding</p>

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
17	Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands	SAC SPA Ramsar	143572 145517 143501	<p>SAC: This site is designated as an SAC for the conservation of the following: Habitats: Blanket bog, Depressions on peat substrates, Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface, Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds, Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate, nutrient levels; Mammal Species: Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>); and Plant species: Marsh saxifrage (<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>)</p> <p>It is designated as a Ramsar and SPA site for the conservation of the following Annex II breeding bird species: Black-throated diver (<i>Gavia arctica</i>), Common scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>), Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>), Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>), Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>), Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>), and Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>).</p> <p>It is designated as a Ramsar site for the conservation of the following: Species: Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>), Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), Breeding bird assemblage and Habitat: Blanket bog.</p>
18	Loch of Wester (Caithness Lochs)	SSSI, SAC	70	<p>SSSI: Bird Species: Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding Habitat: Mesotrophic loch</p> <p>SAC: Habitat: Naturally nutrient-rich lakes or lochs which are often dominated by pondweed</p>
19	Loch Watten (Caithness Lochs)	SSSI, SAC	428	<p>SSSI: Bird Species: Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding Habitats: Open water transition fen, Base-rich loch</p> <p>SAC: Naturally nutrient-rich lakes or lochs which are often dominated by pondweed</p>
20	River Thurso	SAC SSSI	353 49	It is designated as an SAC to protect the Annex II species Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>). The site is designated as a SSSI for the nationally important flood-plain fen habitat and flowering plants that grow along the margins and banks of the river.
21	Broubster Leans (Caithness Lochs)	SSSI SAC	173	<p>Description This site is part of the Caithness Lochs SPA.</p> <p>SSSI: Bird Species: Breeding bird assemblage. Habitat: Hydromorphological mire range</p> <p>SAC: Habitat: Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface</p>

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22	East Caithness Cliffs including marine extension	SPA	11,691	<p>Description The East Caithness Cliffs SPA is located on the east coast of Caithness. The site comprises most of the sea-cliff areas between Wick and Helmsdale. The cliffs are formed from Old Red Sandstone and are generally between 30-60 m high, rising to 150 m at Berriedale. Cliff ledges, stacks and geos provide ideal nesting sites for internationally important populations of seabirds, especially gulls and auks. The seabirds nesting on the East Caithness Cliffs feed outside the SPA in inshore waters as well as further away. The cliffs also provide important nesting habitat for Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>). The seaward extension extends approximately 2km into the marine environment to include the seabed, water column and surface.</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests SPA: Bird species: Seabird assemblage, breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding, Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>), breeding, Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>), breeding, Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>), breeding, Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding, Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding, Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>), breeding, Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>), breeding, Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>), breeding SAC: Habitats: Vegetated sea cliffs</p>
23	Strathy Coast	SSSI SAC	675 203	<p>Description Strathy Coast (SSSI) and Strathy Point (SAC) are located on the northern coast of Caithness and Sutherland between the villages of Melwich and Bettyhill.</p> <p>SSSI: Habitats: Saltmarsh, Maritime cliff, Machair, Sand dunes SSSI: Structural and metamorphic geology: Moine SSSI: Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage SAC: Habitat: Vegetated sea cliffs</p>
24	Invernavar	SSSI SAC	626 295	<p>SSSI: Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland. Habitats: Saltmarsh, Upland assemblage, Sand dunes. Vascular Plants: Vascular plant assemblage SAC: Habitats: Base-rich fens, Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands, Alpine and subalpine heaths, Coastal dune heathland, Dune grassland, Dunes with creeping willow, Dunes with juniper thickets, Shifting dunes with marram</p>

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
25	North Sutherland Coastal Islands (Eilean nan Ron)	SPA SSSI	221	<p>Description This site is situated off the northern coast of Sutherland approximately 8 km north east of Tongue.</p> <p>Conservation Interest SPA: Bird Species: Greenland Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>), non-breeding. SSSI: Bird Species: Greenland Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>), non-breeding. Habitat: Maritime cliff.</p>
26	River Naver	SAC	1,067	<p>Description The River Naver and its largest tributary, the Mallart, flow from the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands northwards to its mouth at Bettyhill.</p> <p>Conservation Interest Fish Species: Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>). Invertebrates: Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>).</p>
27	Foinaven	SPA SAC SSSI	21,082	<p>Description The site encompasses the foothills and mountains of Foinaven, Arkle and Cranstackie, which surround the river valley of the Dionard. The scale of the site is such that it includes a wide range of habitats, from open moorland and river valley to exposed mountain summit areas.</p> <p>Conservation Interest SPA: Species: golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) SAC: Habitats: Bogs (upland), Calcareous grassland (upland), Dwarf shrub heath (upland), inland rock communities and montane habitats. SAC: Species: otter and freshwater pearl mussel. SSSI: Species: Breeding bird assemblage SSSI: Habitats: Bogs (upland), broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland, mosaic.</p>
28	Lairg and Strath Brora Lochs	SSSI, SPA	286	<p>Description Lairg and Strath Brora Lochs SPA comprises a group of 8 small oligotrophic lochs in Sutherland, Highland, Scotland. The component lochs are (west to east): Loch Beannach (Lairg), Loch Dola, Loch Tigh na Creige, Loch Craggie, Loch Beannach (Dalnessie), Loch na Gaineimh, Loch Beannach (Dalreavoch) and Loch Bad na h-Earba. The SPA comprises the entire Lairg and Strath Brora Lochs SSSI.</p> <p>Conservation Interest Bird Species: Black-throated diver (<i>Gavia arctica</i>), breeding</p>

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29	Strath Carnaig and Strath Fleet Moors	SSSI, SPA	14,701	<p>Description Strath Carnaig and Strath Fleet Moors Special Protection Area (SPA) is an area of upland moorland between Lairg and Dornoch incised by broad straths and small streams. The predominant habitats of the SPA are extensive heather moors and upland acid grasslands. There are also areas of commercially planted conifer forest and semi-natural broadleaf woodland. All of these habitats are important in supporting breeding and foraging hen harriers.</p> <p>Conservation Interest Bird Species: Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding</p>
30	Mound Alderwoods	SAC SSSI	297	<p>SAC: Habitat: Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodlands SSSI: Species: Breeding bird assemblage, Habitat: wet woodland and saline lagoon.</p>
31	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet	Ramsar SPA	7,836	<p>Description The Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA is one of the best examples in northwest Europe of a large complex estuary. Extensive sand-flats and mud-flats are backed by saltmarsh and sand dunes with transitions to dune heath and Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) woodland. The tidal flats support internationally important numbers of waterbirds on migration and in winter, and are the most northerly and substantial extent of intertidal habitat for wintering waterbirds in the UK, as well as Europe. The Firth is also of importance as a feeding area for locally breeding Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>).</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests Ramsar: Species: Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), non-breeding, Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>), non-breeding. Habitats: Wet woodland Geomorphology: Reefs, Saltmarsh, Mudflat, Sandflat, Sand Dune. SPA: Bird Species: Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding, Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>), non-breeding, Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>), non-breeding, Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>), non-breeding, Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>), non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), non-breeding, Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>), non-breeding</p>
32	River Oykel	SAC	960	Designated to protect Atlantic salmon and freshwater pearl mussel.

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33	Dornoch Firth and Morrich More	SAC SSSI	8,700 2,931	SSSI: It is one of the most important coastal sites in Scotland and has been notified as an SSSI for its coastal landforms, sand dune and saltmarsh habitats as well as for the assemblages of wintering birds, breeding birds, flowering plants and invertebrates. Morrich More SSSI is also a component part of the Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet Special Protection Area (SPA). SAC: Habitats: Reefs, Subtidal sandbanks, Glasswort and other annuals colonising mud and sand, Atlantic salt meadows, Estuaries, Intertidal mudflats and sandflats, Coastal dune heathland, Dunes with juniper thickets. Species: Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>), Common seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>).
34	The Moray Firth	SAC	151,347	Description The Moray Firth SAC is designated under the EU Habitats Directive, it is one of the largest Marine Protected Areas in Europe. The SAC designation protects the inner waters of the Moray Firth, between Lossiemouth and Helmsdale, westwards. It is designated for the conservation of subtidal sandbanks and the Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) Main Conservation Interests SAC: Habitats: subtidal sandbanks and the Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
35	River Evelix	SAC	21	The River Evelix SAC is designated to protect the Annex II species the Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)
36	Loch Eye	SSSI, SPA, Ramsar	205	Description Loch Eye is a shallow lowland loch located between the Cromarty and Dornoch Firths, approximately 4km east of Tain. The loch is one of only a small number of nutrient-rich (eutrophic) lochs within the Highlands and is the best example of this type in the Moray Firth lowlands. The site is also notified for its wintering birds. Conservation Interest SPA and Ramsar: Birds Species: Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding; and Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus Cygnus</i>) (non-breeding) SSSI: Birds Species: Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding; and Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus Cygnus</i>) (non-breeding); Habitats: Eutrophic Loch.
37	Amat Woods	SAC SSSI	233 154	SAC: Habitat: Caledonian pine forest SSSI: Habitat: Caledonian pine forest and broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodlands.

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38	Pitmaduthy Moss	SSSI, SAC	122	SSSI: Habitat: Raised Bog, Invertebrates: Flies SAC: bog woodland
39	Morangie Forest	SPA	3,513	Bird Species: Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding
40	Loch Achnacloich	SSSI, SAC	20	SSSI: Habitats Open water transition fen, Eutrophic loch SAC: Habitat: Naturally nutrient-rich lakes or lochs which are often dominated by pondweed.
41	Novar	SPA	1054	Bird Species: Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding
42	Cromarty Firth	Ramsar SPA SSSI	3,747 3,614	Description Cromarty Firth is one of the major firths on the east shore of the Moray Firth. The rich invertebrate fauna of the intertidal flats provide important food sources for large numbers of wintering and migrating waterbirds (swans, geese, ducks and waders). The Firth is also of importance as a feeding area for locally breeding Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>) as well as for breeding terns. Main Conservation Interests Ramsar: Species: Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), non-breeding Geomorphology: Mudflat SPA: Bird Species; Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding, Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>), breeding, Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>), non-breeding, Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>), non-breeding, Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>), non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>), non-breeding, Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), non-breeding, Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>), non-breeding

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
43	The Inner Moray Firth	Ramsar Wetland, SPA	2,340	<p>Description The Inner Moray Firth SPA comprises the Beaully Firth and Inverness Firth (including Munlochy Bay) which together form the easternmost estuarine component of the Moray Basin ecosystem. The site contains extensive intertidal flats and smaller areas of saltmarsh. The rich invertebrate fauna of the intertidal flats provide important food sources for large numbers of wintering and migrating waterbirds (geese, ducks and waders). The Firth is also of importance as a feeding area for locally breeding Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>) as well as for breeding terns.</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests SPA: Species Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding, Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>), breeding, Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>), non-breeding, Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>), non-breeding, Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>), non-breeding, Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>), non-breeding, Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>), non-breeding, Goosander (<i>Mergus merganser</i>), non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding Ramsar: Species: Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>), non-breeding, Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), non-breeding, Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>), non-breeding Habitats: Saltmarsh, Mudflat, Sandflat, Sand dune, Shingle</p>
44	Loch Flemington	SPA	21	Designated for conservation of the following Annex II breeding bird species: Slavonian grebe (<i>Podiceps auritus</i>), breeding.
45	Cawdor Wood	SSSI, SAC	162	<p>SSSI: Plant Species: Lichen assemblage; Habitats: Upland oak woodland SAC: Habitat: Western acidic oak woodland</p>

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
46	Culbin Bar Culbin sands, Culbin Forest and Findhorn Bay	SAC SSSI and LMR (Findhorn Bay)	613 5,016	<p>Description The Culbin Bar SAC is designated for its coastal habitats, principally its extensive dunes, vegetated shingle and salt meadows. Although Culbin's sand dune system, the largest in Britain, has been extensively afforested, a large part of the original dune remains unplanted. A 7km-long series of shingle ridges run parallel with the dune coast, forming the second largest area of shingle in Scotland. Findhorn bay is also designated as a Local Nature Reserve and parts designated as the Culbin Bar SAC.</p> <p>The site is of national importance for its exceptionally diverse entomological interest including several rarer species of fly, beetle, moth and butterfly.</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests Habitats: Hydromorphological mire range, Saltmarsh, Mesotrophic loch Species: Fungi assemblage, Invertebrate assemblage, Vascular plant assemblage, Lichen assemblage, Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland, Shingle, Sand dunes</p>
47	The Moray and Nairn Coast	Ramsar Wetland, SPA	37,000	<p>Description The Moray and Nairn Coast SPA is located on the south coast of the Moray Firth. The site comprises the intertidal flats, saltmarsh and sand dunes of Findhorn Bay and Culbin Bar, and the alluvial deposits and associated woodland of the Lower River Spey and Spey Bay. It is of outstanding nature conservation and scientific importance for coastal and riverine habitats and supports a range of wetland birds throughout the year. In summer it supports nesting Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), whilst in winter it supports large numbers of Iceland/Greenland Pink-footed Goose (<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>), Icelandic Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) and other waterbirds, especially ducks, sea-ducks and waders.</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests SPA: Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding, Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>), non-breeding, Velvet scoter (<i>Melanitta fusca</i>), non-breeding, Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>), non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Long-tailed duck (<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>), non-breeding, Pink-footed goose (<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>), non-breeding, Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), non-breeding, Common scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>), non-breeding Ramsar: Species: Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Pink-footed goose (<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>), non-breeding, Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>), non-breeding, Habitat: Wet woodland, Saltmarsh, Mudflat, Sand dune, Shingle</p>
48	Darnway and Lethen Forest	SPA	1,829	Bird Species: Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>).

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
49	Lower Findhorn Woods	SSSI, SAC	181	SSSI: Plant Species: Bryophyte assemblage, lichen assemblage; Habitats: Upland mixed ash woodland, Upland oak woodland, wet woodland, Oligotrophic river/stream. SAC: Habitat: Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes
50	Loch Spynie	SSSI, SPA, Ramsar	93	SPA and Ramsar: Birds Species: Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding; Habitats: Open water transition fen, Eutrophic loch SSSI: Birds Species: Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding and Breeding bird assemblage; Habitats: Wet woodland, Eutrophic loch, Fen meadow and Open water transition fen.
51	Lower River Spey - Spey Bay	SAC	652	This SAC is designated to protect the habitats; Alder woodland on floodplains and Coastal shingle vegetation outside the reach of waves.
52	River Spey	SAC SSSI	5,766	This SAC and SSSI is designated to protect the Annex II species; Atlantic salmon, Sea Lamprey, Otter and Freshwater Pearl Mussel.
53	Reidside Moss	SAC, SSSI	87	SAC: Active Raised Bog, which is a Priority Habitat and Degraded Raised Bog. SSSI for its raised bog.
54	Carn na Tri-tighearnan	SSSI	4,151	Habitat: Blanket bog, subalpine dry heath
55	Moidach more	SSSI	929	Habitat: Blanket bog
56	Anagach Woods	SPA	393	Bird Species: Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding
57	Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor	SSSI	84	Species: Common gull (<i>Larus canus</i>), breeding
58	Hill of Towanreef	SAC SSSI	1,886	SAC: Habitats: blanket bog, juniper heath/ calcareous grasslands, dry heath, inland rock, alpine and subalpine heaths and the presence of marsh saxifrage. SSSI: Geomorphology: Caledonian igneous. SSSI: Habitat: mosaic, calaminarian grassland and serpentine heath.
59	Mortlach moss	SSSI	12	Habitat: Basic fen

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
60	Troup, Pennan and Lions Heads	SPA	39,493	<p>Description Troup, Pennan and Lion's head SPA is a 9km stretch of sea-cliffs along the Banff and Buchan coast of Aberdeenshire. As well as cliffs, the site also includes adjacent areas of grassland and heath, and several small sand or shingle beaches punctuate the otherwise rocky shore. The cliffs rise to 150 m and provide nesting sites for seabirds, which feed in the waters offshore and outside the SPA. The site is particularly important for its assemblages of gulls and auks.</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests SPA: Species: Seabird assemblage, breeding, Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>), breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding, Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>), breeding, Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding, Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding</p>
61	Turclossie Moss	SAC, SSSI	63	<p>SAC: Active Raised Bog, Degraded Raised Bog. SSSI: Intermediate bog (raised).</p>
62	Loch of Strathbeg	Ramsar SPA SSSI	616 954	<p>Description The SPA provides wintering habitat for a number of important wetland bird species, particularly wildfowl (swans, geese and ducks), and is also an important staging area for migratory wildfowl from Scandinavia and Iceland/Greenland. In summer, coastal parts of the site are an important breeding area for Sandwich Tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>), which feed outside the SPA in adjacent marine areas.</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests SPA: Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>), breeding, Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Svalbard Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>), non-breeding, Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>), non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Pink-footed goose (<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>), non-breeding, Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding. Ramsar: Species: Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Pink-footed goose (<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>), non-breeding, Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding, Habitats: Eutrophic loch</p>
63	Berriedale and Langwell Waters	SAC	58 961	This riverine SAC flows into the Moray Firth and has been designated to protect salmon and other migratory diadromous fish.

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
Figure 8.2				
64	Cutties Hillock	SSSI	5	Permian-Triassic Reptilia feature.
65	Quarry Wood	SSSI	22	Habitat: Upland oak woodland.
66	Findrassie	SSSI	2	Permian- Triassic Reptilia as it is an important site in which the first fossil bones were recorded from the Elgin area in 1857
67	Spynie Quarry	SSSI	6	Permian-Triassic Reptilia features.
68	Lossiemouth East Quarry	SSSI	0.88	Permian-Triassic Reptilia features.
69	Scaat Crag	SSSI	1.79	Silurian-Devonian Chordata
70	Coleburn Pasture	SSSI	11	Habitat: Lowland acid grassland
71	Loch Oire	SSSI	8.7	Habitat: Mesotrophic loch.
72	Teindland Quarry	SSSI	2.5	Geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland.
73	Dipple Brae	SSSI	2	Silurian-Devonian Chordata
74	Tynet Burn	SSSI	2	Geological SSSI - an important fossil fish site.
75	Den of Pitlurg	SSSI	39	Habitat: Upland birch woodland, Valley fen
76	Mill Wood	SSSI	8	Habitat: Upland birch woodland
77	Shiel Wood Pastures	SSSI	72	Habitat: Lowland acid grassland, Lowland calcareous grassland, Fen meadow and Springs (including flushes)

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
78	Cullen to Stakeness Coast	SSSI	3464	<p>Description Cullen to Stakeness Coast SSSI contains coastal slopes and raised beaches which have a wide variety of plant communities which have been largely unaffected by agricultural operations. These include coastal grasslands, cliff vegetation and vegetation associated with shingle shores, calcareous sand dunes and limestone outcrops. In several areas, particularly Stake Ness, a mixture of freshwater inflows and salt spray influences have created a rich and unusual complex of fresh, brackish and salt marshes on the raised beaches.</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests Habitats: Lowland dry heath, Springs (including flushes), Saltmarsh Geology: Quaternary of Scotland, Dalradian, Maritime cliff, Shingle, Sand dunes</p>
No Figure Relevant				
n/a	Findrassie	SSSI NNR	1,232 1056	<p>Description Loch Fleet SSSI is located in the Moray Firth basin, about 3km south of Golspie. Extensive intertidal flats support nationally important numbers of wintering birds. The surrounding coastal and woodland habitats and the assemblages of plants and breeding birds they support are also of national importance. Part of Loch Fleet SSSI is part of the Moray Firth Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designated for the European habitats and species listed below. Loch Fleet is also designated as a National Nature Reserve Loch Fleet SSSI is also part of Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet Special Protection Area (SPA) designated for the European birds listed below.</p> <p>Main Conservation Interests Habitats: Subtidal sandbanks Species: Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) Birds: Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), non-breeding, Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>), non-breeding, Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>), non-breeding, Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding, Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding, Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>), non-breeding, Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>), non-breeding, Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>), non-breeding and Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding.</p>

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Tarbat Ness	SSSI	59	Tarbat Ness SSSI lies to the east of Tain at the northern tip of a low peninsula jutting out towards the eastern end of the Dornoch Firth This site is part of Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet Special Protection Area (SPA) designated for a number of wintering birds (listed above).
n/a	Gamrie and Penan Coast	SSSI	315	Description Gamrie and Penan Coast SSSI are seacliffs which support large breeding colonies of seabirds which are of international importance. In summer, approximately 22,000 guillemots, 2,000 razorbills, 15,000 pairs of kittiwakes and 2,000 pairs of fulmars are present, together with smaller numbers of puffins and shags. The steep slopes also support a diverse coastal and heathland flora including montane species such as purple and mossy saxifrages <i>Saxifraga oppositifolia</i> and <i>S.hypnoides</i> and roseroot <i>Sedum rosea</i> . Several other plants which are rare elsewhere in eastern Scotland are locally common including spring squill <i>Scilla verna</i> and oysterplant <i>Mertensia maritima</i> . The dens near Gardenstown and Pennan Head contain examples of herb-rich grassland, flushes, and scrub, reflecting the relatively base-rich substrates and lack of agricultural improvement. Such habitats, and many of the component species, are rare in the NE lowlands. Main Conservation Interests Species: Seabird colony, breeding, Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding, Gannet (<i>Morus bassanus</i>), breeding, Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding, Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding, Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>), breeding, Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>), breeding Geological features: Quaternary of Scotland, Dalradian, Maritime cliff.
n/a	Carinbulg to Combs Coast	SSSI	52.86	Geological features: metamorphic and belong to the Dalradian Supergroup.
n/a	Rosehearty to Fraserburgh Coast	SSSI	136	Structural and metamorphic geology feature: Dalradian Rock and the following birds (although considered to be non-breeding); Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>), Eider (<i>Somateria mollissima</i>), Purple sandpiper (<i>Calidris maritima</i>) and Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>).
n/a	Philorth Valley	SSSI	50	Quaternary geology and geomorphology feature: Quaternary of Scotland
n/a	Rora Moss	SSSI	165	Habitat: of raised bog.
n/a	Tore of Troup	SSSI	809	Habitat: Upland birch woodland, upland mixed ash woodland and upland assemblage.
n/a	Whitehills to Melrose Coast	SSSI	92	Geology: structural and metamorphic geology feature: Dalradian Rock

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Moss of Crombie	SSSI	132	Habitat: Intermediate bog (blanket).
n/a	Coleburn Pasture	SSSI	11	Habitat: Lowland acid grassland
n/a	Buinach & Glenlatterach	SSSI	96	Habitat: Upland oak woodland and Subalpine dry heath.
n/a	Gull Nest	SSSI	252	Habitat: Blanket Bog.
n/a	Kellas Oakwood	SSSI	26	Habitat: Upland oak woodland.
n/a	Lethenhill	SSSI	35	Habitat: Fen meadow.
n/a	Lossiemouth Shore	SSSI	8	Stratigraphic features: Permian Triassic (red beds)
n/a	Clashnach - Covesea	SSSI	23	Geological features: Permian - Triassic Reptilian and Permian Triassic (red beds).
n/a	Masonhaugh	SSSI	32	Geological features: Permian - Triassic Reptilian and Permian Triassic (red beds).
n/a	Kildrummie Kames	SSSI	642	Habitats: Juniper Scrub, Open water transition fen and Eutrophic loch; Geological Feature: Quaternary of Scotland
n/a	Whiteness Head	SSSI	402	Bird Species: Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) and Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>). Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland Habitats: Saltmarsh, Mudflats, Sand Dunes, Shingle
n/a	Ardersier Glacial Deposits	SSSI	50	It is designated for the following geological features: Quaternary geology and geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland
n/a	Longman and Castle Bays	SSSI	422	Bird Species: Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>), Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>), Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>), Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) and Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>), Habitats: Saltmarsh, Eelgrass beds and mudflats.
n/a	Beaully Firth	SSSI	1,243	Vascular Plants: Vascular plant assemblage; Habitats: Saltmarsh Birds: Goosander (<i>Mergus merganser</i>), Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>)
n/a	Munlochy Bay	SSSI	302	Habitats: Saltmarsh and Mudflats Birds: Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), Wigeon (<i>Anas Penelope</i>)

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Monadh Mor	SSSI, SAC	155 252	Habitats: Native Pinewood
n/a	Dam Wood	SSSI SAC	19	SSSI: Habitats: Lowland wet heath, Springs (including flushes); Invertebrates: Moths SAC: Base-rich fens, Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands
n/a	Roskill	SSSI	9	Habitats: Fen Meadow
n/a	Braelangwell Wood	SSSI	66	Habitats: Upland birch woodland, Springs (including flushes) Invertebrates: Flies and Molluscs.
n/a	Rosemarkie to Shandwick Coast	SSSI	445	Habitats: Upland birch woodland, Birds: Cormorants (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) breeding, Paleontological Feature: Mesozoic Palaeobotany. Stratigraphy: Callovian. Structural and metamorphic geology: Moine. Supralittoral rock (Coast): Maritime cliff. Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dunes. Vascular plants: Purple oxytropis (<i>Oxytropis halleri</i>).
n/a	Talich	SSSI	17	Habitats: Wet Woodland.
n/a	Kinrive-Strathrory	SSSI	223	Habitat: Native pinewood and Springs (including flushes).
n/a	Struie Channels	SSSI	232	Quaternary geology and geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland
n/a	Craigroy Burn	SSSI	32	Habitat: Upland birch woodland
n/a	Easter Fearn	SSSI	82	Habitat: Upland birch woodland
n/a	Ledmore Wood	SSSI, SAC	93	Habitat: Western acidic oak woodland
n/a	Migdale Rock	SSSI	146	Habitat: Native pinewood Vascular Plants: Vascular plant assemblage
n/a	Spinningdale Bog	SSSI	29	Habitat: Valley fen
n/a	Kyle of Sutherland Marshes	SSSI	403	Habitats Wet woodland, Flood-plain fen Vascular Plants: Vascular plant assemblage
n/a	Strathfleet	SSSI	134	Habitat: Upland oak woodland Structural and metamorphic geology: Moine Vascular Plants: Vascular plant assemblage
n/a	Creag na croiche	SSSI	35	Structural and metamorphic geology: Moine

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Carrol Rock	SSSI	133	Habitat: Upland birch woodland
n/a	Helmsdale Coast	SSSI	153	Palaeontology: Mesozoic Palaeobotany Stratigraphy: Kimmeridgian
n/a	Loth Gorge	SSSI	13	Habitat: Upland birch woodland
n/a	Coir' an Eoin (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	2,55	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Skinsdale Peatlands (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	7,048	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interests Bird Species: Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>), breeding; Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>), breeding; and Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog. Vascular Plants: Vascular plant assemblage
n/a	Ben Klibreck	SSSI	8,732	This site is located in Sutherland approximately 3 km south of Altnaharra. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Habitats: Blanket bog, Upland birch woodland, Alpine heath, Oligotrophic loch Structural and metamorphic geology: Moine
n/a	Truderscaig (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	1,072	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>), breeding; Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog.
n/a	Mallart (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	562	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Bad na Gallaig (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	4,717	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Ben Loyal (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	4,340	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interests Habitats: Blanket bog, Upland birch woodland, Upland assemblage Igneous petrology: Caledonian Igneous
n/a	West Borgie (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	2,208	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interests Bird Species: Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog Igneous petrology: Caledonian Igneous
n/a	Syre Peatlands (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	3,177	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Black-throated diver (<i>Gavia arctica</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>), breeding; Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>), breeding; Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	West Strathnaver (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	2,710	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interest Bird Species: Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	River Borgie	SSSI SAC	34 32	Conservation Interest SSSI: Invertebrates: Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) SAC: Fish Species: Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) Mammals: Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) Invertebrates: Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)
n/a	Aird Torrisdale	SSSI	178	This site is situated on the northern coast of Sutherland in Torrisdale Bay. Conservation Interests Structural and metamorphic geology: Moine
n/a	Lochan Buidhe Mires Borgie (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	4,123	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interest Bird Species: Breeding bird assemblage. Habitat: Blanket bog

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Skelpick Peatlands (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	2,037	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interest Bird Species: Breeding bird assemblage. Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Lon a' Chuil (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	3,729	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interest Bird Species: Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>), breeding; Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Strathy Bogs (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	1,255	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interest Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	West Halladale (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	8,562	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interest Bird Species: Black-throated diver (<i>Gavia arctica</i>), breeding; Common scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>), breeding; Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Ben Griams (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	7,537	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interest Bird Species: Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>), breeding; Breeding bird assemblage Habitats: Blanket bog, Subalpine calcareous grassland, Alpine heath Vascular Plants: Vascular plant assemblage
n/a	Badanloch Bogs Griams (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	391	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interest Bird Species: Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>), breeding Habitat: Blanket bog

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Forsinard Bogs (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	949	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. Conservation Interest Bird Species: Common scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>), breeding; Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>), breeding; Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	The Flows (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	NNR	11, 373	The Flows is a National Nature Reserve which located within the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is part of the largest expanse of blanket bog in the world and is internationally recognised for its habitat quality and breeding bird populations. Other designated features include wet heath, open waters, otter and many species of waders, waterfowl and birds of prey.
n/a	East Halladale (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	8,237	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>), breeding; Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Loch Caluim Flows (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	6,225	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>), breeding; Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>); Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Sletill Peatlands (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	2,164	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Common scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>), breeding; Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>), breeding; Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>); Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Rumsdale Peatlands (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	6,155	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>), breeding; Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>); Breeding bird assemblage Habitats: Blanket bog, Oligotrophic loch

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Knockfin Heights (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	5,178	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Dunbeath Peatlands (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	6,432	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>), breeding; Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>); Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Morven and Scaraben	SSSI	3,382	This site is located between Berriedale and Langwell Waters approximately 9 km south west of Dunbeath. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Habitats: Subalpine dry heath, Alpine heath
n/a	Strathmore Peatlands (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	7,257	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Bird Species: Common scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>), breeding; Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>), breeding; Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), breeding; Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>); Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>), breeding; Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog Invertebrates: Beetle (<i>Oreodytes alpinus</i>)
n/a	Coire na Beinne Mires (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	3,512	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Blar nam Faoileag (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	2,879	This SSSI is part of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Shielton Peatlands (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	5,497	Bird Species: Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Loch Scarmclate (Caithness Lochs)	SSSI	108	Bird Species: Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding Habitat: Base-rich loch

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Oliclett (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	754	Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Moss of Killimster (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	183	Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Stroupster Peatlands (Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands)	SSSI	2795	Habitats: Blanket bog, Oligotrophic loch
n/a	Loch Heilen (Caithness Lochs)	SSSI	101	Bird Species: Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>), non-breeding; Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding; Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding Habitat: Mesotrophic loch
n/a	Loch of Mey (Caithness Lochs)	SSSI	69	Bird Species: Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>), non-breeding; Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Transition grassland
n/a	Beinn Freiceadain and Ben Dorrery	SSSI	97	Habitats: Subalpine dry heath, Tall herb ledge
n/a	Red Point Coast (North Caithness Cliffs)	SSSI	166	Bird Species: Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding Quaternary geology and geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland Stratigraphy: Non-marine Devonian Habitat: Maritime cliff Vascular plants: Scottish primrose (<i>Primula scotica</i>)
n/a	Sandside Bay	SSSI	81	Habitat: Sand dunes
n/a	Ushat Head	SSSI	45	Habitat: Maritime cliff
n/a	Holborn Head (North Caithness Cliffs)	SSSI	133	Palaeontology: Silurian - Devonian Chordata Habitat: Maritime cliff
n/a	Dunnet Head (North Caithness Cliffs)	SSSI	93	SSSI: Bird Species: Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding; Seabird colony, breeding SSSI: Habitat: Maritime cliff

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Pennylands	SSSI	20	Palaeontology: Silurian - Devonian Chordata Stratigraphy: Non-marine Devonian
n/a	Newlands of Geise Mire	SSSI	9	This SSSI is located approximately 3 km south west of Thurso and 2 km west of the A9. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Habitat: Valley fen
n/a	Loch Lieurary	SSSI	40	This site is located in Westfield approximately 5 km south west of Thurso, east of Forss Water. It is designated as a SSSI site for the conservation of the following: Habitat: Basin fen
n/a	Westfield Bridge	SSSI	8	Habitats: Lowland calcareous grassland, Fen meadow
n/a	Weydale Quarry	SSSI	3	Palaeontology: Silurian - Devonian Chordata
n/a	Dunnet Links	SSSI	793	Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland Habitat: Sand dunes
n/a	Loch of Durran	SSSI	40	Habitat: Transition grassland Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage
n/a	Phillips Mains Mire	SSSI	59	Habitat: Blanket bog
n/a	Duncansby Head (North Caithness Cliffs)	SSSI	67	Bird Species: Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding; Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding; Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding; Seabird colony, breeding Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland Habitat: Maritime cliff
n/a	Stroma (North Caithness Cliffs)	SSSI	153	Bird Species: Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>), breeding; Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding; Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandwicensis</i>), breeding; Seabird colony, breeding Habitat: Maritime cliff
n/a	Ward Hill Cliffs	SSSI	36	Habitat: Maritime cliff
n/a	Achanarras Quarry	SSSI	40	Palaeontology: Silurian - Devonian Chordata
n/a	Spittal Quarry	SSSI	14	Palaeontology: Silurian - Devonian Chordata

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Wick River Marshes	SSSI	69	Habitat: Flood-plain fen
n/a	Lower Wick River	SSSI	40	Habitats: Flood-plain fen, Open water transition fen
n/a	Thrumster Mill Loch	SSSI	3	Habitat: Open water transition fen
n/a	Hill of Warehouse	SSSI	27	Habitats: Hydromorphological mire range, Valley fen
n/a	Long Berry Coast	SSSI	9	Stratigraphy: Non-marine Devonian
n/a	Castle of Old Wick to Craig Hammel (East Caithness Cliffs)	SSSI	26	Habitat: Maritime cliff
n/a	Craig Hammel to Sgaps Geo (East Caithness Cliffs)	SSSI	73	This SSSI is part of East Caithness Cliffs SPA. Conservation Interest Bird Species: Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding; Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding; Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>), breeding; Seabird colony, breeding Habitat: Maritime cliff
n/a	Ousdale Burn	SSSI	39	Habitat: Upland birch woodland
n/a	Berriedale Cliffs	SSSI	206	The site is designated for the nationally important maritime cliff vegetation and breeding seabirds.
n/a	Dunbeath Water	SSSI	152	Habitat: Upland birch woodland Quaternary geology and geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland
n/a	Knockinnon Heath	SSSI	67	Habitat: Lowland dry heath
n/a	Burn of Latheronwheel	SSSI	55	Habitat: Eutrophic river/stream
n/a	Hill of Leodebest	SSSI	10	Habitat: Upland assemblage
n/a	Lambsdale Leans	SSSI	89	Bird Species: Breeding bird assemblage Habitat: Open water transition fen
n/a	Orphir and Stenness Hills	SSSI	890	Species: Breeding bird assemblage, Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding, Upland assemblage

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Lochs of Harray and Stenness	SSSI	1787	Species: Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>), non-breeding, Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>), non-breeding, Scaup (<i>Aythya marila</i>), non-breeding, Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>), non-breeding. Habitats: Saline lagoon, Eutrophic loch Species: Caddisfly (<i>Ylodes reuteri</i>), Freshwater nerite snail (<i>Theodoxus fluviatilis</i>)
n/a	Eynhallow (Rousay)	SSSI	97	Species: Common seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)
n/a	Mill Loch Eday	SSSI	23	Species: Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>),
n/a	Doomy and Whitemaw Hill	SSSI	247	Species: Arctic skua (<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>), breeding, Whimbrel (<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>), breeding.
n/a	Muckle and Little Green Holm	SSSI	52	Species: Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
n/a	Central Sanday	SSSI	632	Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland, Saltmarsh, Machair, Sand dunes
n/a	Northwall	SSSI	240	Habitat: Machair loch, Machair
n/a	Windyhills	SSSI	42	Geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland
n/a	Gight Woods	SSSI	52	Habitat: Upland mixed ash woodland, Upland oak woodland
n/a	Wortle Moss	SSSI	63	Habitat: Basic fen
n/a	Craigs of Succoth	SSSI	220	Habitats: Subalpine flushes, Calaminarian grassland and serpentine heath
n/a	Whitehill	SSSI	66	Habitat: Lowland acid grassland, Lowland calcareous grassland, Fen meadow, Valley fen, Lowland neutral grassland
n/a			Bin quarry	Geomorphology: Caledonian Igneous, Mineralogy of Scotland
n/a	Lower Strathavon Woods	SSSI	294	Habitat: Upland mixed ash woodland, Upland oak woodland, Upland birch woodland, Wet woodland.
n/a	Allt á Choire	SSSI	55	Geomorphology: Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland
n/a	Dalroy and Clava Landform	SSSI	92	Geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland

Reference No.	Site Name	Status	Area (ha)	Description and Main Conservation Interests ¹
n/a	Littlemill Fluvio-glacial landforms	SSSI	176	Geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland