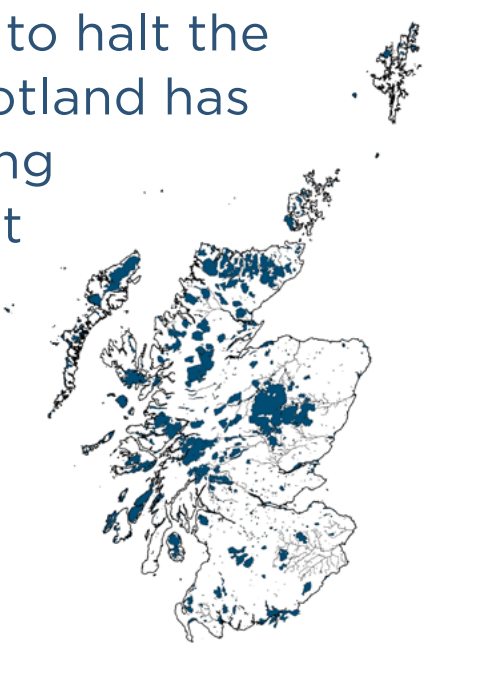


As part of our efforts to halt the biodiversity crisis, Scotland has committed to achieving 30x30: Having at least 30% of our land and freshwater effectively safeguarded for biodiversity by 2030.



% of Scotland currently contributing

18.54%

.....

+0.34%

% change over the last year

■ 30x30 area

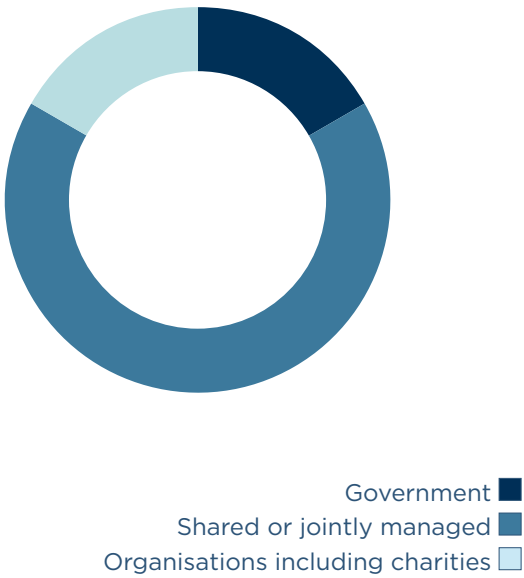
	Total Number	Change in number	Hectarage	Change in hectarage	Pipeline
Protected Areas	1589	+1	1,478,555.0	+291.1	1
Nature30	5	+5	4216.7	+4216.7	12

Protected Areas contributing to 30x30 figures consist of SSSI, SPA, SAC, Ramsar sites, and NNRs.

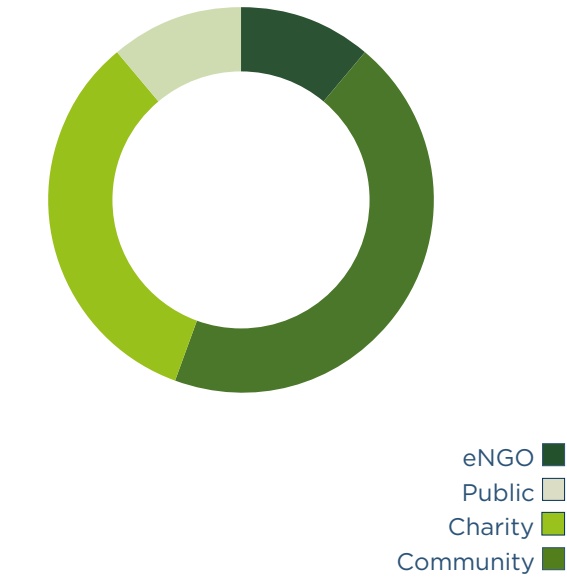
Equitability

Equitability is essential to how 30x30 is governed and delivered, ensuring representation of Scotland’s diverse biodiversity as well as the communities, stakeholders, and businesses whose contributions are vital to its success.

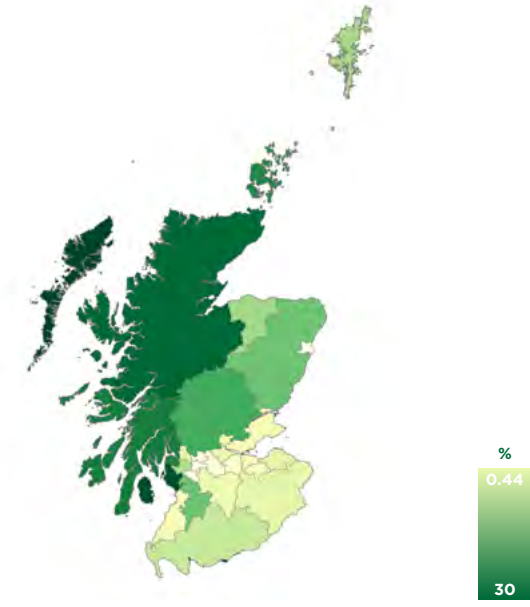
Nature30 sites by sector



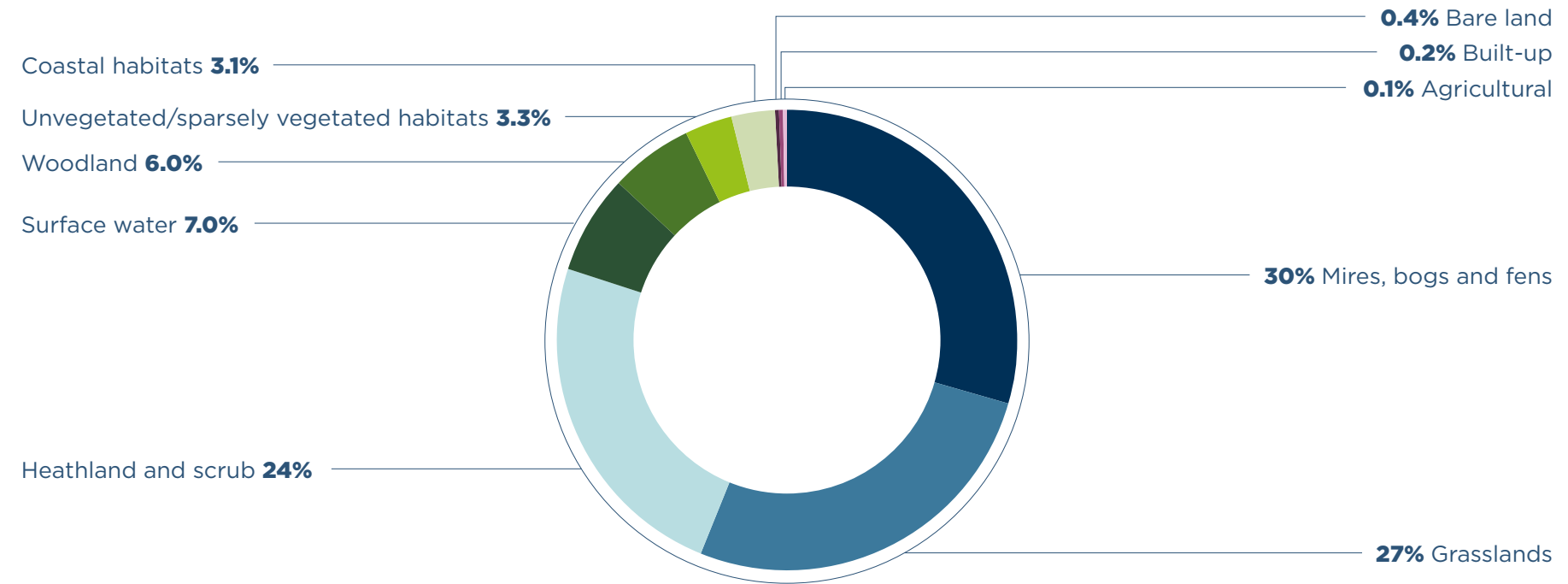
Nature30 sites by governance



30x30 by Local Authority



30x30 Habitat Breakdown



Effectiveness



Ensuring all Scotland’s Protected Areas and Nature30 sites are effective is crucial in ensuring they deliver genuine benefits for biodiversity. The figures here give an indicator of effectiveness across core 30x30 protected areas; SSSIs, SPAs, SACs, and Ramsar sites. As new sites are recognised or designated, these will be included.

Of those which have been assessed, 885 sites are effectively managed. 659 site do not meet the criteria for effective management, although some parts of these may overlap with other protected areas that are effectively managed. We are developing a prioritisation programme for effective management, including the 397 sites that don’t overlap with effectively managed sites.



Site condition is currently derived from feature condition as a proxy for effectiveness. We are developing a site-level effectiveness evaluation approach (Monitoring to Deliver Healthy Ecosystems) that will assess management of pressures at site-relevant scales. Roll-out of this approach will commence in 2027 and gradually replace the feature approach as new assessments are made.

The area covered by effectively managed sites accounts for 14.1% of Scotland.

Connectivity

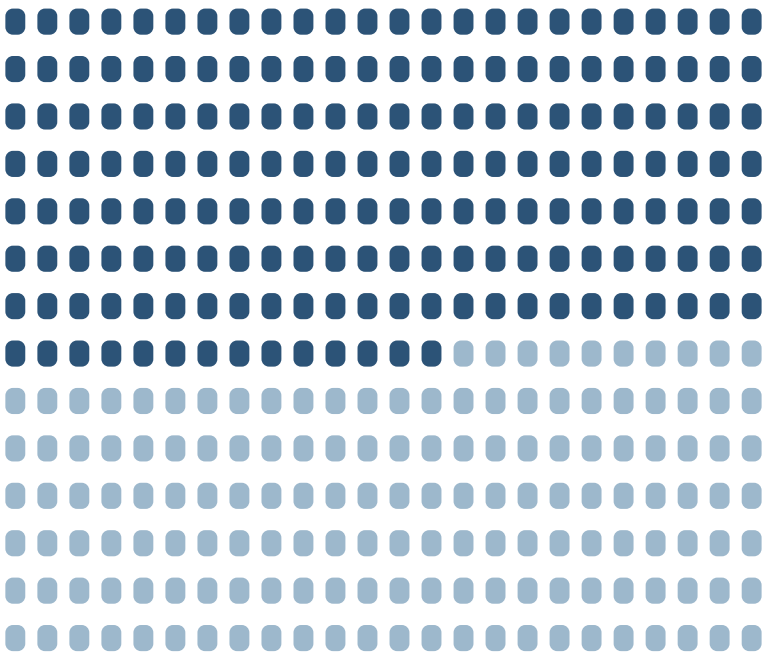
Connectivity is essential to allow 30x30 sites to function as part of a wider, joined up Nature Network that links habitats, supports species movement, and strengthens ecosystem resilience across Scotland.

Planning Authorities with published Nature Network plans



The published Nature Networks plans include those in draft or finalised.

Across the six published Nature Networks, **182 out of 336** 30x30 sites are connected or covered. This equates to **54% of sites which will be connected.**



(Data from six Planning Authorities that have publicly available Nature Network plans; City of Edinburgh, Moray, East Ayrshire, Dundee, Perth and Kinross, and Aberdeenshire. Seven more Planning Authorities have spatially defined Nature Networks in the pipeline.)



Spotlight

Protected Area success

Glen Falloch Woods SSSI sits within Glenfalloch Estate in the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park. This site represents the largest and least disturbed remnants of the formerly extensive native broadleaf woods in the area.

Until recently, natural regeneration had struggled to establish in the woodlands rendering the SSSI in unfavourable condition. As part of their landscape scale nature recovery project, Glenfalloch have been managing deer to a suitable level to support unfenced woodland expansion and peatland recovery objectives on the wider estate. This has led to significant improvements in the condition of the SSSI.

There has been a noticeable reduction in herbivore impacts across the SSSI and a large amount of regeneration is now progressing in most areas. It is believed that with the continuation of current management, the condition of the feature will become favourable in the foreseeable future.



Spotlight

Nature30 site success

Findhorn Hinterland has been recognised as one of Scotland's first Nature30 sites in celebration of its positive management and contributions to biodiversity.

The site is managed by the Findhorn Hinterland Trust (FHT) and is approximately 48.08 ha of rare coastal sand dune, grassland, and woodland habitats along the Moray Firth between the Findhorn and Burghead Bays, Morayshire. The sand dunes are nationally significant for lichen assemblages, invertebrates, and fungi.

FHT has been working to restore the dune habitats through targeted scrub and non-native tree seedling removal to allow a recovery of the natural ecological processes. Management of the woodland is seeing the proportion of non-native trees reduced and replaced with native species over a long timescale.