

DORNOCH FIRTH AND LOCH FLEET RAMSAR SITE CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

General Description

Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet Ramsar site is located on the east coast of Scotland straddling the boundary between Easter Ross and Sutherland. The site consists of two distinct areas on the shores of Dornoch Firth, and Loch Fleet along with woodlands adjacent to the River Fleet upstream of The Mound.

Ramsar Interest Features

For full details refer to [Ramsar Site Citation](#). The Ramsar interest features and associated designations are:

Ramsar interest feature	Associated designation
Estuarine alder woodland	Mound Alderwoods Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Estuary	Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC
Sand dune	Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC
Baltic rush <i>Juncus balticus</i>	Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC
Seaside centaury <i>Centaureum littorale</i>	Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC
Dwarf eelgrass <i>Zostera noltei</i>	Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC
Eelgrass <i>Zostera. marina</i>	Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC
Harbour seal <i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC
Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC
Bar-tailed godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> , non-breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet Special Protection Area (SPA)
Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i> , non-breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> , non-breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA
Greylag goose <i>Anser anser</i> , non-breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA
Osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> , breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA
Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> , non-breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA
Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> , non-breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA
Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i> , non-breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA
Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> , non-breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA
Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i> , non-breeding	Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA

Conservation Objectives

Ramsar interest feature	Conservation objectives
Estuarine alder woodland	Refer to the conservation objectives for Alder woodland on flood plains, in the Mound Alderwoods SAC Conservation Advice Package.
Estuary (with intertidal mudflats and sandflats, saltmarsh and eelgrass beds)	Refer to the conservation objectives for Estuary, in the Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC Conservation and Management Advice, to apply throughout the Ramsar site.

<p>Sand dune (a complete transition from foredune to dune heathland, including slacks).</p>	<p>Refer to the conservation objectives in the Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC Conservation and Management Advice for the following habitats, to apply throughout the Ramsar site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Shifting dunes ➤ Shifting dunes with marram ➤ Dune grassland ➤ Lime deficient dune heathland with crowberry ➤ Coastal dune heathland ➤ Humid dune slacks ➤ Dunes with juniper thickets
<p>Baltic rush</p>	<p>The protection of Baltic rush is delivered by the conservation objectives for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Estuary (Atlantic salt meadow, one of the component habitats of Estuary) ➤ Dune grassland <p>in the Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC Conservation and Management Advice, to apply throughout the Ramsar site.</p>
<p>Seaside centaury</p>	<p>The protection of Seaside centaury is delivered by the conservation objectives for Estuary in the Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC Conservation and Management Advice (Atlantic salt meadow, one of the component habitats of Estuary), to apply throughout the Ramsar site.</p>
<p>Dwarf eelgrass and Eelgrass</p>	<p>The protection of Dwarf eelgrass and Eelgrass including plants recorded as <i>Z. angustifolia</i> is delivered by the conservation objectives for Estuary in the Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC Conservation and Management Advice (Intertidal mudflats and sandflats, one of the component habitats of Estuary), to apply throughout the Ramsar site.</p>
<p>Harbour seal Otter</p>	<p>Refer to the conservation objectives for Harbour seal and Otter in the Conservation and Management Advice for Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC, to apply throughout the Ramsar site</p>
<p>Bar-tailed godwit Curlew Dunlin Greylag goose Osprey Oystercatcher Redshank Scaup Teal Wigeon</p>	<p>Refer to the conservation objectives for Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet SPA</p>