

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as
Waterfowl Habitat

CITATION FOR RAMSAR SITE

(Kampala criteria, 2005)

LOCH AN DUIN (UK13029)

Site Description

Loch an Duin Ramsar site is situated in North Uist, north of Lochmaddy. It is an extensive and complex fiardic loch system consisting of freshwater lochs, sea lochs, tidal channels and islands.

Interest Features (marked in bold) N.B All bird figures relate to numbers at the time of designation:

Loch an Duin Ramsar site qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 1 by virtue of it containing:

- The largest and most complex **fiardic loch system** in Britain.

The site is particularly important due to the full transition of salinity being present across wetland types (freshwater, brackish and sea lochs). The system contains tidal channels and includes both sheltered and exposed coastlines.

Loch an Duin Ramsar site also qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 2 by supporting:

- **Otter** *Lutra lutra*, which are wide ranging throughout the site.

Area: 2619.37 ha

National Grid Ref: NF936725

OS Sheet 1:50,000 – 18

Designated on the 25 April 1990.

This (amended) citation adopted on 15 September 2025.

Associated Designations:

Part of the Ramsar site lies within Loch nam Madadh Special Area of Conservation (SAC). It coincident with the boundary of Loch an Duin Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).