

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as  
Waterfowl Habitat

**CITATION FOR RAMSAR SITE**

**(Kampala criteria, 2005)**

**LOCH OF SKENE (UK13040)**

**Site Description**

The Loch of Skene Ramsar site is situated about 10 km west of Aberdeen. It is a shallow eutrophic lowland loch surrounded by fringing reedbeds and birch-willow carr.

**Interest Features (marked in bold)** NB, all bird figures relate to numbers at the time of designation:

The Loch of Skene Ramsar site qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 4 by supporting the following waterbird species at a critical stage in their life cycles:

- **Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula* (150 individuals, 1% of the GB population), and
- **Goosander** *Mergus merganser* (110 individuals, over 2% of the GB population).

The Loch of Skene Ramsar site also qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 6 by regularly supporting 1% or more of the individuals in a population of waterbirds:

- **Greylag goose** *Anser anser* (an average of 5,500 individuals, over 5% of the Iceland/UK/Ireland biogeographic population).

Area: 121.76 ha

National Grid Ref: NJ785074

OS Sheet 1:50,000: 38

Designated on 1 October 1986.

This (amended) citation adopted on 8 September 2025.

**Associated designations**

The boundary of the Ramsar site is coincident with both Loch of Skene Special Protection Area (SPA) and Loch of Skene Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).