

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as
Waterfowl Habitat

CITATION FOR RAMSAR SITE

(Kampala criteria, 2005)

Rannoch Moor (UK13051)

Site Description

Rannoch Moor Ramsar site is an extensive previously glaciated plateau surrounded by uplands located in the southern Highlands and represents the most extensive complex of western blanket bog and soligenous/valley mire in Britain. It is of particular importance for its range of northern mire types. The site also contains part of the open water and shore of Loch Laidon, which runs along the site's north-west boundary.

Interest Features (marked in bold)

Rannoch Moor Ramsar site qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 1 by virtue of it containing a variety of wetland types:

- **Blanket bog.**
- **Very wet mires often identified by an unstable `quaking` surface, wet heath, oligotrophic lochs, dystrophic lochs, lochans and pools** with their surrounding fen communities occur in a mosaic with the blanket bog. These provide the diversity of habitats necessary to support a wide range of wetland species.

A range of rare or scarce wetland plants, birds, animals and invertebrates are associated with these habitats and are protected and managed as part of them.

Rannoch Moor Ramsar site also qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 2 by supporting:

- The nationally rare **Rannoch rush** *Scheuchzeria palustris*. Rannoch Moor is the only remaining British locality for this species.
- A particularly diverse invertebrate fauna including: three nationally scarce beetles, ***Gyrinus opacus*, *Bembidion bipunctatum*, *Dytiscus lapponicus***; two nationally rare flies, ***Brevicornu kingi* (Mycetophilidae), *Tasiocera fuscescens* (Tipulidae)**; and five notable moths, ***Apamea zeta* (Noctuidae), *Carsia sororiata*, *Eurois occulta* (Noctuidae), *Ectoedemia weaveri* (Nepticulidae) and *Coleophora genistae*.**

Rannoch rush is found in the blanket bog habitat in addition to the wetland habitats that occur in close association with it and are protected and managed as part of them.

Area: 1519.59 ha
National Grid Ref: NN409548
OS Sheet 1:50,000 – 41, 51

Designated on the 5 January 1976.

This (amended) citation adopted on 15 September 2025.

Associated designations

The boundary of the Ramsar site is within both the Rannoch Moor Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and the Rannoch Moor Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).