

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as
Waterfowl Habitat

CITATION FOR RAMSAR SITE

(Kampala criteria, 2005)

Silver Flowe (UK13055)

Site Description

Silver Flowe Ramsar site is an expanse of patterned mire habitat in southern Scotland. This is the most southerly development of oceanic blanket mire vegetation with *Racomitrium* hummock characteristics and the best example of aligned hummock-hollow systems in Britain. The patterned blanket mires also constitute the least-disturbed extent of acid peatland in southern Scotland. These mires, which have developed on the floor of a broad glacial valley in the Galloway Hills, exhibit a complete gradation from discrete valley mires with raised mire characteristics to blanket mires at the head of the valley.

Interest Feature (marked in bold)

Silver Flowe Ramsar site qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 1 by virtue of it containing:

- Patterned mire (peatland with extensive pool systems), a type of **Blanket bog**. Silver Flowe represents the most varied extent of acid peatland in southern Scotland.

A range of rare or scarce wetland plants, birds, animals, and invertebrates are associated with this habitat and are protected and managed as part of it.

Area: 619.76 ha
National Grid Ref: NX469830
OS Sheet 1:50,000 – 77

Designated on the 24 July 1981.

This (amended) citation adopted on 8 September 2025.

Associated designations

The boundary of the Ramsar site lies within both the Merrick Kells Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and the Merrick Kells Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).