

CITATION

OLD WOOD OF DRUM SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST Aberdeenshire

Site code: 1255

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NJ791010

OS 1: 50 000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 38
1: 25 000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 406

AREA: 45.8 hectares

NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

Biological : Woodlands : Upland oak woodland

DESCRIPTION:

The Old Wood of Drum is located 15km west of Aberdeen, between Drum Castle and the Mony Burn. It is an ancient wood, with a documented history dating back to the 13th century, and one of the largest of oak woods in Aberdeenshire.

The wood lies on the well-drained morainic soils of the lower Dee valley, and is dominated by oaks, mainly pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, and downy birch *Betula pubescens*, with some Scots pine *Pinus sylvestris*. A variety of other trees and shrubs are found, including rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, wych elm *Ulmus glabra*, gean *Prunus avium*, holly *Ilex aquifolium* and hazel *Corylus avellana*. The field layer is generally dominated by creeping soft-grass *Holcus mollis* and bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, with wood anemone *Anemone nemorosa* and wood sorrel. The locally rare wood millet *Milium effusum* is also found.

The soils are wetter by the Mony Burn where alder *Alnus glutinosa* is locally abundant and soft rush *Juncus effusus*, meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria* and water avens *Geum rivale* are found.

NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified, under the 1981 Act: 28 July 1983.
Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 6 June 2011.

REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected (from 41 ha).