

CITATION

RED MOSS OF NETHERLEY SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

Aberdeenshire

Site code: 1336

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE : NO860940

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

AREA : 93.9 hectares

NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

Biological : Bogs : Raised bog

DESCRIPTION

The Red Moss of Netherley is located 12 km north of Stonehaven. It comprises a raised bog, modified by peat cutting in the past. A central area of uncut deep peat is surrounded by re-vegetated peat-cuttings with a fairly extensive fringe of poor-fen, and birch and willow fen-woodland. It is the best example of a lowland raised bog in the Aberdeen area and one of the largest in the north-east.

It has a good representation of bog vegetation associated with the eastern lowlands of Scotland, being dominated by ling heather *Calluna vulgaris* and hare's-tail cotton grass *Eriophorum vaginatum*. Locally, towards the centre of the site, the bog is actively regenerating. Here, bog myrtle *Myrica gale* is frequent and major peat-building bog mosses, *Sphagnum papillosum* and most notably *S. magellanicum*, are abundant.

NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the 1981 Act: 6 January 1986.
Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 7 June 2011.

REMARKS

The Red Moss of Netherley is designated the Red Moss of Netherley Special Area of Conservation (SAC), for the following European habitats.

Active raised bog
Degraded raised bog

Measured area of site corrected (from 99.9 ha).