



**Purpose**





This is a public statement prepared by SNH for owners and occupiers of the SSSI. It outlines the reasons it is designated as an SSSI and provides guidance on how its special natural features should be conserved or enhanced. This Statement does not affect or form part of the statutory notification and does not remove the need to apply for consent for operations requiring consent.

We welcome your views on this statement.

**Description of the site**

Round Loch of Lundie SSSI is situated in the Sidlaw Hills some 3km south of the village of Newtyle and approximately 5km east-southeast of Coupar Angus. The water source of the loch is the Long Loch of Lundie, another SSSI to the west. Round Loch of Lundie was designated as a eutrophic loch (ie of high nutrient levels), with open water transition fen vegetation and alder carr (wet woodland) including locally uncommon plant communities.

The site is sometimes locally important as a roost for Greylag and Pink-footed Geese between November and March. This varies from year to year with the fickle nature of roosting geese.

Alder carr at Round Loch of Lundie	Nesting swans at Round Loch in 1996
	

## Current condition of the natural features

A summary of the latest site monitoring information is given below:

Natural feature of Round Loch of Lundie SSSI	Feature condition (date monitored)
Eutrophic loch	27/07/2004 - Unfavourable maintained
Wet woodland	27/08/2000 - Favourable maintained
Open water transition fen	27/08/2000 - Favourable maintained

## Past and present management

The SSSI forms part of Kinpurnie Estate. The site is located in an area of arable land with some broadleaved woodland and conifer plantation. The northern and eastern boundaries of the site are a farm track and minor road respectively. The loch has been stocked with rainbow and brown trout and is fished from boats by a syndicate.

The Estate wish to maintain an attractive loch (Round Loch is a backdrop to the private gardens of Thriepley House) without loss of current open water, and maintain a trout fishery. Strong growth of Canadian Pondweed appeared in 1987, causing concern among the anglers. With consent from SNH, the Estate applied herbicide in 1988, which was successful in controlling the spread of the pondweed. There are also regular, usually mild, algal blooms. Anecdotal evidence suggests these have been occurring since the 1970's.

SNH commissioned a nutrient budget of the surrounding farmland in 2007 to see if the source of the excess nutrients causing the blooms was the surrounding land. The nutrient budget concluded that the source was most likely not from land and suggests that the loch sediment may hold historically high nutrient levels. Strong winds in summer stir up the water and may disturb sediment, releasing nutrients which support the growth of algae. Further investigation is required of the water running into the loch and the loch itself, including the loch sediment. If this work is carried out, it will inform future management of the loch to try to reduce the algal blooms and improve its condition.

## Objectives for Management (and key factors influencing the condition of natural features)

1. to restore the loch to a favourable condition and maintain its assemblage of aquatic plants and associated surrounding vegetation
2. to maintain the present balance of wet wood and fen communities around the loch

We will work with the owner to protect the site and to maintain and where necessary enhance its features of special interest. SNH aims to carry out site survey, monitoring and research as appropriate to increase our knowledge and understanding of the site and its natural features.

## Other factors affecting the natural features of the site

None known.

Date last reviewed: 7 March 2008