

**CITATION****SHIEL DOD  
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST**  
South Lanarkshire / Dumfries & Galloway

Site code: 1422

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NS 950030

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 78  
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 329

AREA: 1187.78 hectares

**NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES****Biological: Upland habitats: Upland assemblage****DESCRIPTION**

Shiel Dod Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), lying approximately 10 kilometres to the north-east of Thornhill, supports an assemblage of upland vegetation communities representative of the Southern Uplands.

The upland assemblage includes blanket bog, subalpine dry dwarf-shrub heath, and calcareous types of spring-head, rill and flush. On Shiel Dod itself, the blanket bog is notable for the occurrence of extensive areas of cloudberry *Rubus chamaemorus*. Above 450 metres the vegetation displays montane affinities, as indicated by the presence of viviparous sheep's-fescue *Festuca vivipara*, alpine meadow-rue *Thalictrum alpinum*, alpine lady's-mantle *Alchemilla alpina* and alpine clubmoss *Diphasiastrum alpinum*. Where rock exposures include greywackes, the vegetation has an unusual character reflecting base-enrichment. Small areas of calcareous grassland support such species as quaking-grass *Briza media*, heath-grass *Danthonia decumbens* and wild thyme *Thymus polytrichus*. The base-rich cleughs also support an interesting flush flora which includes the Nationally Scarce hairy stonecrop *Sedum villosum*.

**NOTIFICATION HISTORY**

First notified under the 1949 Act: 1971

Re-notified under the 1981 Act: 30 April 1986 with a 16.28 ha increase in area.

Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 23 September 2010

**REMARKS**

Measured area of site corrected (from 1191.88 ha)