

## CITATION

**FOREST OF CLUNIE  
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST  
Perth and Kinross**

Site code: 1709

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NO 018665; NO 045474; NO 045548; NO 100657

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 43, 52, 53  
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 379, 386, 387

AREA: 19,476.61 hectares

## NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

**Biological: Birds: Hen harrier *Circus cyaneus*  
Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*  
Short-eared owl *Asio flammeus*  
Black grouse *Tetrao tetrix*  
Breeding bird assemblage**

## DESCRIPTION:

The Forest of Clunie SSSI is in eastern Perthshire. It is an extensive area of moorland and grassland with open waters and woodlands centred upon the upland massif between Dunkeld and Pitlochry in the west and Blairgowrie and Glenshee in the east. The moorland is comprised predominantly of dry heath with smaller areas of wet heath, blanket bog and spring-fed fens (flushes).

The site is of importance for its breeding hen harrier, osprey, short-eared owl, and black grouse, and its upland breeding bird assemblage.

The diversity of the breeding bird assemblage, which also includes buzzard, black-throated diver, dipper, dunlin, common sandpiper, curlew, golden plover, grey wagtail, little grebe, merlin, peregrine, raven, red grouse, redshank, ring ouzel, snipe, teal, twite, wheatear, wigeon and whinchat, is itself a reflection of the diversity of open moorland habitats and their management.

## NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981: 10 February 2000.  
Notification confirmed on 03 November 2000 with a 159 ha reduction in area.

Notification reviewed under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004:  
23 March 2010

## REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected (from 19,477 ha).

Part of the Forest of Clunie SSSI is designated as the Forest of Clunie Special Protection Area (SPA) for the birds listed below:

Birds:            Hen harrier *Circus cyaneus*  
                      Merlin *Falco columbarius*  
                      Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*  
                      Short-eared owl *Asio flammeus*

Part of the Forest of Clunie SSSI is part of the River Tay Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which is designated for the European habitats and species listed below:

Habitats :        Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels

Species:          Atlantic salmon *Salmo salar*  
                      Brook lamprey *Lampetra planeri*  
                      River lamprey *Lampetra fluviatilis*  
                      Sea lamprey *Petromyzon marinus*  
                      Otter *Lutra lutra*

Part of the Forest of Clunie SSSI is also part of Brerachan Meadows SSSI which is designated for lowland neutral grassland.

Part of the Forest of Clunie SSSI is also part of Cardney Wood SSSI which is designated for upland oak woodland.