

**CITATION****CENTRAL LOCHS, BUTE  
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST  
Argyll and Bute**

Site code: 352

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: Greenan Loch - NS 067640  
Loch Dhu - NS 065616  
Kirk Dam - NS 082630  
Loch Ascog - NS 093626  
Loch Fad - NS 074612  
Loch Quien - NS 064593

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series: 63  
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series: 362

AREA: 189.43 hectares

**NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES**

**Biological: Birds: Greylag goose *Anser anser*, non-breeding**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Central Lochs, Bute Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) comprises six distinct freshwater bodies located centrally on the Isle of Bute. The six-part site comprises Greenan Loch, Loch Dhu, Kirk Dam, Loch Ascog, Loch Fad and Loch Quien. The adjacent land is not included within the boundary of the SSSI.

Together these waterbodies form an internationally-important roosting area for wintering greylag geese as they support a major concentration representing over 1% of the north-west European population. Loch Quien is the most favoured loch of the group where numbers of wintering geese are consistently high. Gatherings on the other lochs are variable, but all five lochs and the Kirk Dam Reservoir form an important winter refuge not only for geese but also for other wildfowl.

**NOTIFICATION HISTORY**

First notified under the 1949 Act: 1972  
Re-notified under the 1981 Act: 23 February 1984  
Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 30 November 2009

**REMARKS**

Measured area of site corrected (from 187 ha).