

CITATION**FINDHORN TERRACES
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST
HIGHLAND**

Site code: 635

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE : NH 844 364

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 27
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 418

AREA: 56.78 hectares

NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES**Geological: Geomorphology: Fluvial geomorphology of Scotland****Geological: Quaternary geology and geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland****DESCRIPTION**

Findhorn Terraces is located in the Findhorn valley in upland Nairnshire. It is notified for its series of river terraces.

The river terraces on the east side of the River Findhorn at Ballachrochin are unique in the number of levels preserved and are also exceptional in their height above the present river (approx. 70m). Locally, eight to eleven levels have been mapped, with several smaller units inset within larger ones. The highest terraces are formed from sediment washed out from glaciers, and there are kettle holes on the surface. Bedrock at the base of the lowest terrace has protected the higher terrace levels from erosion by the river.

Other interesting features include the large height and width of some of the terraces. This represents possibly the highest and most dramatic staircase of terraces in Scotland.

NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the 1981 Act: 9 October 1989

Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 24 October 2007

REMARKS

Measured area corrected (from 56.8 ha.)