

CITATION

**GLEN LYON WOODS
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST**
Perth and Kinross

Site code: 714

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NN 710472

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 51
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 378

AREA: 52.18 hectares

NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

Biological: Woodlands: Wet woodland
Non-vascular plants: Lichen assemblage

DESCRIPTION:

Glen Lyon Woods Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is situated at the foot of Glen Lyon 4km above the village of Fortingall where it rises from the River Lyon on steep slopes on both sides of the valley. The site is important for its wet woodland and its rich lichen assemblage.

Most of the site consists of ancient mixed deciduous woodland made up primarily of upland mixed ash and slope alder woodland. It is one of the largest examples of this type of woodland remaining in west Perth & Kinross. The ground flora is rich, particularly in the areas of ash and alder woodland where species of more restricted distribution occur such as smooth-stalked sedge *Carex laevigata*, moschatel *Adoxa moschatellina* and wood speedwell *Veronica montana*; on rock outcrops near the river species such as Wilson's filmy fern *Hymenophyllum wilsonii*, and black spleenwort *Asplenium adiantum-nigrum* are present.

Glen Lyon Woods is of particular importance for its rich lichen flora which includes both sub-oceanic and continental species including a number of rarities. The lichen communities are sustained by the high humidity of the site due to its relatively western location, the many old trees, and by its freedom from pollution. Some of the rarer species such as *Gyalecta ulmi* are present on rock outcrops, but most are found on old ash trees or sometimes other species such as aspen or oak. Some of the more notable species include *Lithothelium phaeosporum*, *Leptogium saturninum*, *Gyalecta flotowii*, and *Megalospora tuberculosa*.

NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981: 31 October 1983

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

11 March 2011

REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected (from 51.5 ha).

Part of the Glen Lyons Woods SSSI overlaps with part of the River Tay Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which is designated for the European habitats and species listed below:

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

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