

CITATION

KILLORN MOSS
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST
Stirling

Site code: 848

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NS 622962

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 57
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 366

AREA: 35.4 hectares

NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

Biological: Bogs: Raised bog

DESCRIPTION

Killorn Moss is a lowland raised mire situated in the upper Forth Valley, 10 miles west of Stirling. It forms part of the Flanders Mosses Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which is of European importance for its active raised bog and degraded raised bog.

This site is one of the few remnants of the lowland raised mire system which formerly extended across the entire Carse of Stirling. Killorn Moss is a lowland active raised bog which provides an interesting contrast to Flanders Moss, another remnant of the same system, in that Killorn Moss is much drier and supports different plant and animal communities. Much of the area which would have been surrounding bog, has been degraded as a result of peat mining, drainage and muir-burning, but the site itself is relatively undisturbed and supports several species of bog-mosses, the most prevalent of which are *Sphagnum rubellum*, *S. magellanicum*, *S. papillosum* and *S. tenellum*.

Above this bryophyte layer the vegetation comprises several plant communities typical of bog habitat and is dominated by heather *Calluna vulgaris*, and cotton grass *Eriophorum vaginatum*. In the wettest parts sundew *Drosera rotundifolia*, cranberry *Vaccinium oxycoccos* and bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum* are locally abundant. Noteworthy species recorded on this site are bog rosemary *Andromeda polifolia* which is locally rare and near the northern limits of its distribution in Britain, and white beak-sedge *Rhynchospora alba*. The woodland which has developed on the edges of the moss is rich in bryophytes and lichens.

NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the 1949 Act: 1973
Re-notified under the 1981 Act: 30 July 1986 with a 1.5 ha reduction in area
Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 17 August 2010

REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected (from 34.9 ha)

Killorn Moss SSSI is part of the Flanders Mosses Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designated for the European habitats and species listed below.

Habitats : Active raised bog
 : Degraded raised bog