



Scottish Natural Heritage

LINN OF TUMMEL
Site of Special Scientific Interest

SITE MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

Site code: 942

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Purpose



This is a public statement prepared by SNH for owners and occupiers of the SSSI. It outlines the reasons it is designated as an SSSI and provides guidance on how its special natural features should be conserved or enhanced. This Statement does not affect or form part of the statutory notification and does not remove the need to apply for consent for operations requiring consent.

We welcome your views on this statement.



Description of the site

Linn of Tummel Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is situated 3km north west of Pitlochry, 0.5km west of where the River Tummel joins with the River Garry. The site is located within Loch Tummel National Scenic Area (NSA).

Linn of Tummel was selected as a SSSI on account of its riverside herb-rich birch/hazel woodland, an unusual woodland type in Perth & Kinross.

The site is a small area of quite rocky, and in some places quite damp, woodland. The eastern end of the site has open birch and juniper wood with some alder. The site has a south facing aspect, and slopes steeply to the adjacent River Tummel, part of the River Tay Special Area of Conservation (SAC). It lies at an altitude of between 100 and 125m.

The ground flora is notably species-rich and contains a number of uncommon plant species, for example mountain melick *Melica nutans*, lily of the valley *Convallaria majalis*, Goldilocks *Ranunculus auricomus* and wood fescue *Festuca altissima*.

Lily of the Valley (<i>Convallaria majalis</i>)	Birch Woodland at Linn of Tummel
	

Current condition of the natural features

Upland Birch Woodland (results of monitoring February 2006)

Linn of Tummel SSSI was monitored in February 2006 and was found to be in unfavourable declining condition.

The reason for the unfavourable status of the site was due to non-native species being recorded (albeit in a relatively small number), which included beech, sycamore and the occasional spruce (site is adjacent to plantation woodland).

A summary of the latest site monitoring information is given below:

Natural features of Linn of Tummel SSSI	Feature condition (date monitored)
Upland Birch Woodland	Unfavourable Declining February 2006

Past and present management

The majority of Linn of Tummel SSSI is part of a larger National Trust for Scotland property. The site is used frequently by the general public for recreation, in particular walking on the existing nature trail.

There are proposals by the SSSI owners to begin to remove regeneration of non-native species to restore the site to favourable condition.

Objectives for Management (and key factors influencing the condition of natural features)

The current management is broadly compatible with maintaining the conservation interest of the site.

The long term goal for the site is to maintain the herb-rich birch/hazel woodland and its associated ground flora. The management objectives that contribute to this goal are:

1. To restore the upland birch woodland to favourable condition by controlling the regeneration of non-native species.

We wish to work with the owners to protect the site and to maintain and where necessary enhance its features of special interest. SNH aims to carry out site survey, monitoring and research as appropriate to increase our knowledge and understanding of the site and its natural features.

Date last reviewed: 28 July 2009