

SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA

LOCH LOMOND

STIRLING/ARGYLL & BUTE/WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE (UK9003021)

Site Description:

The Loch Lomond Special Protection Area (SPA) covers an area of woodland, mire and open water at the southeastern corner of the loch and a cluster of four wooded islands in the southern half of the loch. A range of mire communities occur including inundated mineral marshes and eutrophic-mesotrophic swamp. The islands support mainly deciduous woodlands dominated by birches *Betula* spp. and oaks *Quercus* spp. with some conifers and an understorey with luxuriant areas of blaeberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*.

The Loch Lomond SPA comprises Inchtavannach and Inchconnachan SSSI, Inchmoan SSSI, Inchcruiin SSSI and the mainland area of the Endrick Mouth & Islands SSSI. Part of the site (Inchmoan SSSI, Inchtavannach & Inchconnachan SSSI and the mainland section of Endrick Mouth and Islands SSSI) was previously classified as Loch Lomond SPA on 24 March 1997 for Greenland white-fronted goose *Anser albifrons flavirostris* and capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*.

Qualifying Interest:

Loch Lomond SPA qualifies under **Article 4.1** by regularly supporting a wintering population of European importance of the **Annex 1** species **Greenland white-fronted goose** *Anser albifrons flavirostris* (a winter peak mean of 221 individuals between 1993/94 and 1997/98 representing 2% of the British population). This is an unusual inland wintering population of this species which is mainly found on the north and west coast of Scotland.

Loch Lomond SPA also qualifies under **Article 4.1** by regularly supporting a population of European importance of the **Annex 1** species **capercaillie** *Tetrao urogallus* (a mean March count of 32 individuals between 1995 and 1999, 1% of GB). The wooded islands within the pSPA support the highest density population in Britain and lie at the southern limit of capercaillie distribution in Britain.

Area: 510.49 ha

OS Sheet 1:50,000 - 56, 57

National Grid References:

Endrick Mouth NS 430895,

Inchtavannach NS 366912

Inchconnachan NS 375916

Inchmoan NS 376907

Inchcruiin NS 387912

March 2000

Scottish Natural Heritage