

EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds

**SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA) CITATION
FOR PUBLIC ISSUE**

RANNOCH LOCHS, HIGHLAND (UK9004021)

Site Description:

Rannoch Lochs Special Protection Area (SPA) comprises a cluster of eight oligotrophic lochs centred upon Rannoch Moor in the southern Highlands of Scotland. The individual lochs are (west to east): Loch Dochar, Loch Ba, Loch Laidon, Loch na Tota, Loch na Sgeallaig, Loch Ossian, Lochan Loin nan Donnlaich, and Loch Finnart. These eight lochs support a typical oligotrophic fauna and flora. The Rannoch Lochs SPA comprises part of Black Wood of Rannoch SSSI (Loch Finnart), part of Rannoch Moor SSSI (Lochs Ba and Laidon) and the entire Rannoch Lochs SSSI.

Qualifying Interest:

Rannoch Lochs SPA supports a population of European importance of black-throated diver *Gavia arctica*, an Annex I species. The site supports seven black-throated diver territories representing 4% of the British population. This cluster of lochs has a high productivity, averaging around one chick fledged every two years per territory during 1986 to 1998 in comparison with a national average of around one chick every three and a half years during the same period. The combination of large population size and high productivity means that the site makes a significant contribution to the production of fledged chicks in Scotland as a whole.

Area: 1171.3 ha

National grid reference: NN 214419, NN 325508, NN 364657, NN 365660, NN 387547, NN 390680, NN 468612, NN 523556.

OS 1:50,000 sheets - 41, 42, 50

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