



*Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora*

*and*

*Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds*

**FORMAT FOR  
A PRIORITISED ACTION FRAMEWORK (PAF)  
FOR NATURA 2000**

**For the EU Multiannual Financing Period 2014-2020**

***SCOTLAND***

***(Draft 05/05/16)***

## C. LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FOR THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATURA 2000 SITES

### C.1 Relevant legal provisions

The Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) represent the main transposition of the requirements of the Habitats Directive for Scotland, containing provision for the selection and designation of sites (Part II), the protection of species (Part III), the adaptation of planning and other controls (Part IV) and appropriate assessments for land use plans (Part IV).

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) also apply for functions in Scotland which are reserved to the UK Government.

The Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007, as amended, transpose the requirements of the Habitats Directive for the offshore marine environment (i.e. beyond 12 nautical miles).

The Marine Strategy Regulations 2010<sup>1</sup> provide the legal mechanism through which the UK meets its responsibilities under the MSFD. This requires Member States to develop a strategy for their waters, in coordination with neighbouring countries within the same marine region. In the UK, this coordination is primarily achieved via the Oslo and Paris Convention (OSPAR)<sup>2</sup>. This aims, *inter-alia*, to halt and prevent further biodiversity loss in the OSPAR maritime area by 2020, to protect and conserve ecosystems and to restore, where practicable, marine areas which have been adversely affected. It also commits the UK to establishing its part of an ecologically coherent and well-managed network of Marine Protected Areas across the North-east Atlantic by 2016 as described in the North-East Atlantic biodiversity strategy<sup>3</sup>.

The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 provide powers on marine planning, licensing, conservation and enforcement. In particular, the powers to designate Marine Protected Areas in Scotland's seas and duties on Scottish Ministers to establish a network of sites to protect biodiversity and geodiversity to contribute to the delivery of international commitments on developing an ecologically coherent network of well managed MPAs.

### Co-designation with Sites of Special Scientific Interest (“Underpinning”)

The majority of land-based SACs and SPAs are also notified as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) under the [Nature Conservation \(Scotland\) Act 2004](#). This “underpinning” provides the statutory basis for maintaining and improving the condition of terrestrial European sites, for example via the lists of Operations Requiring Consent which are associated with each SSSI, and through management agreements.

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1 Marine Strategy Regulations 2010, available at: [http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/1627/pdfs/ukxi\\_20101627\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/1627/pdfs/ukxi_20101627_en.pdf)

2 OSPAR, available at: <http://www.ospar.org/>

3 North-East Atlantic biodiversity strategy, available at: [http://www.ospar.org/html\\_documents/ospar/html/10-03e\\_nea\\_environment\\_strategy.pdf](http://www.ospar.org/html_documents/ospar/html/10-03e_nea_environment_strategy.pdf)

The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 (“the 2004 Act”) replaced in its entirety the existing statute governing the notification and protection of SSSIs in Scotland. Following the passage of that Act, the Habitats Regulations were amended by the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (“the 2004 Regulations”) to bring European sites into line with the protection regime set out in Part 2 of the 2004 Act for SSSIs. It should be stressed that these regulations act only for Scotland, and provide for the protection and management of Natura 2000 sites irrespective of whether they are underpinned by SSSI such that:

- i) there is an offence of intentional or reckless damage to a European Site irrespective of whether or not the land is notified as SSSI (Regulation 18 as inserted by Regulation 9 of the 2004 Regulations)
- ii) Scottish Ministers may make nature conservation orders prohibiting any activity they choose to specify in such an order for European sites or on any land they consider to be of special interest, irrespective of whether the land is notified as SSSI (Regulation 19 as inserted by Regulation 9 of the 2004 Regulations)
- iii) Scottish Ministers may make land management orders compelling appropriate land management (on advice from SNH) for European Sites irrespective of whether the land is notified as SSSI (under regulation 19 as inserted by Regulation 9 of the 2004 Regulations). This is additional to existing legislation (Regulation 16 of the 1994 Regulations) which allows SNH to enter into management agreements with every owner, lessee and occupier of land forming part of a European site, or land adjacent to such a site, for the management, conservation, restoration or protection of the site, or any part of it
- iv) Regulation 19 of the 1994 Regulations (as inserted by Regulation 9 of the 2004 Regulations) also applies sections 39, 40, 41 43, 44 and 46 of the 2004 Act (relating to acquisition of land by SNH, restoration orders, signs, etc, powers of investigation etc, powers of entry and offences, penalties and time limits) to European Sites (irrespective of whether they are underpinned by SSSI).

These provisions coupled with existing provision which allow SNH to enter into management agreements mean that in certain limited circumstances, the Scottish Ministers and Scottish Natural Heritage consider that in certain limited circumstances it is not always necessary to underpin European sites. However, this situation is kept under review by Scottish Natural Heritage to ensure that compliance with the requirements of the Directive is always achieved.

**The Extent of the Network in Scotland**

<b>Designation</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Net Area (ha)</b>
SPA	153	1,123,000
SAC	239	1,170,000

Net area excludes overlaps between sites.  
 SAC data includes inshore and offshore marine, but excludes SCI, cSAC and proposed sites

## C.2 Progress and perspectives for management planning for the sites

<p>Progress in establishing conservation objectives</p>	<p><b>Scotland</b></p> <p>There is no obligation to implement a Natura 2000 site management plan, although there is a legal obligation to produce a Site Management Statement (SMS) for every SSSI. Where an SSSI underpins a Natura 2000 site, the SMS takes account of the Natura interest(s). However, land managers are not obliged to implement the SMS.</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage is developing statements for all SACs and SPAs that will summarise the qualifying features of the site, the conservation objectives and management measures required.</p> <p>Specific management plans are in operation for all National Forest Estate designated sites. Long term forest plans are also a tool which is used for privately owned sites.</p> <p>As part of the statutory notification package, all owners and occupiers of SSSIs are issued with a list of Operations Requiring Consent (the ORC list). These are operations or activities which have the potential to damage the features of interest of the SSSI. Where SSSIs underpin Natura 2000 sites, the ORC list takes account of the qualifying interests of the Natura 2000 site. Land managers intending to undertake any activity on the ORC list must apply to SNH for consent. Where the interests of a Natura 2000 site may be affected, SNH will undertake an appraisal under the Habitats Regulations to ensure that there is no adverse effect on site integrity in view of the site's conservation objectives. If it cannot be ascertained that adverse effects on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site will be avoided, consent for the operation will be refused. The conservation objectives for Natura 2000 sites are based on the requirements of Article 6.2 of the Habitats Directive (to avoid deterioration and significant disturbance) and the requirements of favourable conservation status for habitats and species (as defined in Article 1). Conservation objectives are available for all Natura sites in Scotland via Sitelink on SNH's website: <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp</a></p> <p>Management of Natura 2000 sites is often supported (financially and otherwise) by the Scotland Rural Development Programme, and in particular the Agri-environment Climate scheme. Further information on SRDP and AECS can be found via the following links: <a href="http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/SRDP/SRDP20142020Schemes">http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/SRDP/SRDP20142020Schemes</a> and <a href="http://www.snh.gov.uk/land-and-sea/srdp/">http://www.snh.gov.uk/land-and-sea/srdp/</a></p>
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	<p>All Scottish SACs and SPAs have Conservation Objectives in place.</p> <p>Under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 there is no requirement for site management plans. In Scotland work is underway to trial the development of regional MPA management plans (encompassing all relevant designation types including Natura 2000 and nMPAs) that would provide an overview of the marine protected areas in any region, their features, conservation objectives and management measures, and to outline how overlap designations should be managed.</p>
% of sites with plans completed	See Art 17 general report
% of sites with plans in preparation	
% of sites with no plans	
Link to web sites with plans & any guidelines	<a href="http://www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/protected-areas/international-designations/sac/marine-sac-management/">http://www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/protected-areas/international-designations/sac/marine-sac-management/</a>
More background information on plans and comment on other instruments/ approaches for management planning, information on and plans for particular sectors (e.g. forestry etc.)	<p><b>Scotland</b></p> <p>Information and links as supplied in previous sections. Regional MPA management plans</p> <p><i>Inshore fishery management</i></p> <p>It is the responsibility of Member States to establish conservation measures for protected areas under national jurisdiction and to assess the need for additional fisheries management measures. For inshore Natura 2000 sites and national MPAs in Scotland it is intended that management measures for all potentially damaging fishing operations will be in place by the end of 2017.</p> <p>Aside from the development of site-specific fisheries management measures there are a number of fisheries management regulations currently in force that provide existing protection to MPA-listed features. Examples include measures to manage incidental bycatch of cetaceans (Council regulation EC No 812/2004), the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems (Council regulation EC No 734/2008) and the provision for emergency measures under Article 7 of Council Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002, where there is evidence of a serious threat to the conservation of the marine ecosystem resulting from fishing activities requiring immediate action. The UK is also committed to implementing measures within the seabird bycatch action plan and the harbour porpoise conservation plan (presently being revised).</p> <p><i>Management of other activities</i></p>

	<p>Management of marine protected areas is predominately undertaken from an activity perspective and through the licensing systems. Additional management measures, other than those being developed for fisheries measures may also be required at some of the new NC MPAs sites depending on the sensitivities of the designated features. These will be considered by the relevant competent authorities as required.</p>
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### **C.3 Relevant government and non-governmental plans**

#### **The Scottish Rural Development Programme**

The [Scottish Rural Development Programme](#) (SRDP) is the main source of Government funding for rural land management including the management of Natura 2000 sites and people's enjoyment of these assets. The SRDP budget is over £1.3bn (comprised of contributions from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and Scottish Government co-financing). This is a programme of economic, environmental and social measures which is designed to support rural Scotland from 2014 to 2020. Individuals and groups may seek funding to help deliver the Government's strategic objectives in rural Scotland.

#### **National Indicator on Designated (SSSI and Natura 2000) Site Condition**

In 2007, the Scottish Government established a National Indicator in its National Performance Framework to monitor improvements to the condition of protected nature sites. The first cycle of site condition monitoring was undertaken between 1st April 1999 to 31st March 2005. At the end of the first cycle, 71.4% of natural features were found to be in favourable condition. By the end of March 2016, 80.4% of natural features were assessed as being in a favourable condition.

Scottish Natural Heritage has the main responsibility for delivering this National Indicator with a significant contribution from Forestry Commission Scotland. These bodies set priorities and direction, and provide financial support to land owners and others to secure improvement in the condition of habitat features and for priority species. Some of this support is delivered through Rural Development Contracts under the Scotland Rural Development Programme. The Scottish Government and other bodies with responsibilities in Scotland's marine environment also play an important role.

The national forest estate plays an important role in managing Natura 2000 sites on a long term basis, with a very high % of site in favourable/recovering condition (c97% for all the designated sites).

#### **Biodiversity Strategy**

Scotland's biodiversity strategy, '*Scotland's Biodiversity: It's in Your Hands*', was published in 2004. It sets out how biodiversity would be conserved for the health, enjoyment and wellbeing of the people of Scotland. The strategy set out a vision for 2030 as well as objectives and desired outcomes leading us there. These are still valid, however the way in which the Strategy is being taken forward has changed from that set out almost ten years ago.

The '*2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity*' was launched in 2013 and focuses on the desired outcomes for 2020. It is Scotland's response to the European Biodiversity Strategy for 2020 and the UN 'Aichi' targets. It shows how the Scottish Government, its public agencies, Scottish business and others can contribute to the Strategy's aims as well as supporting sustainable economic growth. It has adopted an 'ecosystems approach' which focusses on the need to protect ecosystems in order to support nature, wellbeing and a thriving economy.

Together, '*Scotland's Biodiversity: It's in Your Hands*' and the '*2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity*' formally comprise the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy.

In June 2013 *Scotland's Biodiversity: a Route Map to 2020* was published. The Route Map sets out the priority work over the next five years to 2020 to enable Scotland to meet the international Aichi Targets for biodiversity.

### **Biodiversity Duty under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004**

Under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act (2004), all public bodies in Scotland are required to further the conservation of biodiversity when carrying out their responsibilities. The Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act (2011) requires public bodies in Scotland to provide a publicly available report, every three years, on the actions which they have taken to meet this biodiversity duty. These were due by 1 January 2015 covering the period 2011-2014.

Public bodies are encouraged to inform Scottish Government when their reports are published, but this is not a requirement.

### **Land Use Strategy**

Scotland's [Land Use Strategy 2016 – 2021](#) was laid in Parliament on 22 March 2016. The development and review of the Strategy is a key commitment of Section 57 of the [Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#).

The Land Use Strategy 2016 – 2021 takes a strategic approach to the challenges facing land use in Scotland. It sets out three Objectives relating to the economy, environment and communities and provides a set of Principles for Sustainable Land Use to guide policy and decision making by Government and across the public sector. Its focus is on a more integrated approach to land use and the achievement of multiple benefits from our land. The Land Use Strategy 2016 – 2021 contains a suite of policies and proposals which set out the Scottish Government's priorities for action during the next five year period.

### **A Strategy for Marine Nature Conservation in Scotland's Seas**

The strategy sets out the aims and objectives for protecting and, where appropriate, enhancing Scotland's valuable marine biodiversity and includes objectives for protected areas. The strategy is designed to facilitate co-operation in pursuit of shared marine objectives in the UK and to meet national and international obligations. These include the implementation of the Birds and Habitats Directives and achievement of Good Environmental Status under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). This strategy extends to the marine area where Scottish Ministers have devolved responsibility (Scottish territorial waters and the Scottish offshore region).

The Scottish Government announced the adoption of the list of Priority Marine Features (PMFs) referred to within the strategy on 24 July 2014. The PMF list contains 81 habitats and species considered to be of conservation importance in Scotland's seas. It includes many features which are characteristic of the Scottish marine environment, ranging from flame shell beds in coastal waters, to cold-water coral reefs of the deeper seas, and mobile species such as minke whale and basking shark. The list is used to help focus future conservation action and marine planning, direct research and education and promote a consistent approach to marine nature conservation advice.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/marine-environment/Conservationstrategy/marinestrategy>



## **Scotland's National Marine Plan**

This National Marine Plan sets out strategic policies for the sustainable development of Scotland's marine resources out to 200 nautical miles. Marine planning will be implemented at a local level within Scottish Marine Regions, extending out to 12 nautical miles, and these are set out in the National Marine Plan. The National Marine Plan (NMP) sets out the legislative requirements for Regional Marine Plans, including:

- assessing the condition of the region;
- summarising the significant pressures and impacts of human activity;
- stating the contribution of MPAs and other designated areas to the protection and enhancement of the region.

The NMP encourages regional marine planners, to consider various aspects in their role including;

- Using relevant guidance and data sources to identify, where appropriate, areas that are sensitive to specific types of development or other activity. Particular regard should be given to protected sites and protected species.
- Developing policies that contribute to the achievement of Conservation Objectives for designated sites within the MPA network.
- Recognising the role of habitats and species in providing and supporting ecosystem services and consider opportunities to enhance these services.

## **Climate Change – Scottish Adaptation Programme**

Sets out the Scottish Government's long-term objectives (up to the 2050s) and the shorter-term priorities for this Programme (up to 2018) with the following objectives:

### **Objective N1 – Enhance the health and resilience of Scotland's terrestrial environment and natural capital.**

The priorities for the next five years will be to:

- Improve the quality and health of our air, water and soils.
- Enhance natural capacity for reducing flood risk.
- Enhance natural processes to maintain coastal resilience.
- Promote the sustainable use of Scotland's natural resources.
- Improve habitat management where activities such as grazing, burning or drainage cause declines in diversity or size of species populations.
- Encourage an adaptive approach to land and conservation management.
- Encourage the use of an ecosystem approach, summarised in three principles: consider natural functions; take account of the services that ecosystems provide; and involve people in decisions that affect them.
- Enhance the contribution of farming to the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- Work towards ensuring that all water bodies in Scotland achieve good or better status .
- Use transport network auditing regimes to monitor biodiversity impacts.

### **Objective N2 – Help nature adapt.**

The priorities for the next five years will be to:

- Targeted action for species and habitats;
- Strengthen habitat networks;
- Enhance opportunities for species to disperse by reducing fragmentation and increasing the amount of habitat available;
- Enhance habitat diversity;
- Reduce pressures from invasive non-native species;
- Plan for habitat change where assessments indicate losses of habitats or species are inevitable;
- Consider translocation of species where assessments indicate likely loss and where there are suitable areas for nature to adapt.

**Objective N3 – Minimise negative climate change impacts on the marine environment and enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems.**

The priorities for the next five years will be to:

- Development of a well managed network of MPAs
- Use Scottish, UK and international processes for monitoring and surveillance of climate change impacts on the marine environment.
- Develop new tools, e.g. for predictive modelling, to allow for better forecasting of the marine environment in light of change.
- Put in place response plans to deal with climate change events.
- Put in place better management through marine planning.
- Use the new science emerging from implementation of the Scottish and UK Marine Science Strategies to inform adaptation decision making for nature conservation and planning.
- Implement a tiered approach to managing the risks from invasive species: (1) preventing the release of all non-native species into the wider environment will be given the highest priority as the most effective and least environmentally damaging intervention; (2) where prevention fails, early eradication or removal from the environment should be the next consideration; (3) if invasive species are having serious negative impacts it may be desirable to control or contain the population, or mitigate those impacts.
- Identify and take into account combined effects – e.g. interactions of pollution, overfishing, climate change, habitat loss etc.
- Assess any impact from increased leisure activities (currently a data gap) on the marine environment, and ensure consideration of this issue when developing marine plans, MPA management plans and Priority Marine Feature measures.
- Better understand and consider the effects of flooding on salmon and sea trout spawning grounds.
- Develop technical standards for Scottish fish farm equipment to minimise risk of escapes through changing weather / tidal conditions.

**Objective N4 – Maintain and restore functional forest habitats that are resilient to climate change impacts.**

The priority for the next five years will be to:

- Increase native woodland creation and halt woodland loss and fragmentation of existing priority habitats, and increase natural regeneration around priority

woodland habitats, with the aim of building climate resilience and facilitating adaptation.

- Deal with potential new or exacerbated threats from invasive non-native species.
- Develop our understanding of the benefits of habitat connectivity and habitat networks, including integrating forest and open habitat networks, for biodiversity in response to a changing climate.
- Ensure climate change is factored into approaches to the conservation and sustainable management of all woodlands.

### **Central Scotland Green Network**

The Scottish Government's third National Planning Framework (NPF3) designates the Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) as one of 14 National Developments. The CSGN is intended to deliver change across Scotland's central belt as "a step change in environmental quality is required to address disadvantage and attract investment, whilst sustaining and enhancing biodiversity, landscape quality and wider ecosystems". The CSGN long term project with a Vision stretching up to 2050 to change the face of Central Scotland by restoring and transforming the landscape of an area that has a legacy, in some areas, of disused land, poor quality greenspace and fragmented habitats. As home to over 2.5 million residents, around two-thirds of the Scottish population, it has the potential to bring significant environmental and socio-economic benefits.

Delivering the CSGN involves public agencies and stakeholders working together to align their policies, programmes and actions to achieve a common aim. This includes the establishment of the CSGN Development Fund which is used to support communities looking to transform their greenspaces. Support for the Fund in 2016/17 comes from Scottish Government, Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission Scotland and Transport Scotland which reflects the wide range of policy interests that the green network can deliver. More than £6 million has been awarded to over 150 projects since 2010.

### **Local Biodiversity Action Plans**

Co-ordinated action is also secured locally through Local Biodiversity Action Plans. Local Biodiversity Action Partnerships operate at a local authority level and help conserve and enhance biodiversity and engage local community input. Local Biodiversity Action Plan Partnerships were set up in the UK as part of Britain's response to ratifying the Convention on Biological Diversity following the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.

Each partnership is made up of a number of organisations, from one (or more) local authority area with a balance of national agencies and organisations and more local biodiversity expertise. Local authorities normally play host to a biodiversity officer for the partnership other than in the Loch Lomond & Trossachs and Cairngorms National Parks which have their own distinct plans and biodiversity officers.

The partnerships deliver a wide range of biodiversity conservation, communication and education work in their local areas. Each partnership has a biodiversity action plan which identifies the habitats and species for which work is underway or planned. Links to the plans are provided below.

## Scottish LBAPs

[Argyll & Bute LBAP](#)  

[Ayrshire LBAP](#) 

[Borders LBAP](#)  

[Cairngorms LBAP](#)  

[Clackmannanshire LBAP](#) 

[Dumfries LBAP](#)  

[Dumbarton LBAP](#) 

[East Lothian LBAP](#) 

[Edinburgh LBAP](#) 

[Falkirk LBAP](#) 

[Fife LBAP](#) 

[Glasgow LBAP](#) 

[Highland LBAP](#) 

[Loch Lomond National Park LBAP](#) 

[Midlothian LBAP](#) 

[North East LBAP](#) 

[North Lanarkshire LBAP](#) 

[Orkney LBAP](#) 

[Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde](#) 

[Scottish Borders LBAP](#) 

[Shetland LBAP](#) 

[South Lanarkshire LBAP](#) 

[Stirling Biodiversity](#) 

[Tayside LBAP](#) 

[West Lothian LBAP](#) 

[Western Isles LBAP](#) 

## D CURRENT EXPERIENCE WITH USE OF EU FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### D1 European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

Provide a summary of allocations under relevant provisions of rural development fund for Natura 2000 management, (as well as other relevant national/regional financing)

Fund	Provision	Level of Use*
EAFRD	213 Natura 2000 payments	NU
	224 Forest Natura 2000 payments	NU
	214 agri-environment	VS
	225 forest-environment measures	VS
Other relevant (national/regional) payment schemes for Territory		
Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:  The Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) is now the main source of Government funding for rural land management, including management to benefit nature and landscapes and people's enjoyment of these assets.		
Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the demand led approach of EAFRD can be problematic where there are reluctant landowners</li> <li>lack of any incentivisation within EAFRD rules (costs incurred and revenue foregone)</li> </ul>		

\* Where estimates are available they should be provided. Otherwise indicate as VS Very significant; MU Moderate Use; MI Minor use; NU No use

### D.2 European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

Provide a summary of allocations under Axis 1-4 of EFF used for Natura 2000 management, (as well as other relevant national/regional funding)

Fund	Provision	Level of Use*
EFF	Axis 1	NU
	Axis 2	NU
	Axis 3	NU
	Axis 4	NU
Other (national/regional) payment schemes for Territory		
Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:		
Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered:		

Where estimates are available they should be provided. Otherwise indicate as VS Very significant; MU Moderate Use; MI Minor use; NU No use

### D.3 Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund

Provide a summary of allocations under relevant provisions of structural funds used for Natura 2000 management, (as well as other relevant national/regional funding)

Fund	Provision	Level of Use*
ERDF	Category 51	NU
	Category 55	NU
	Category 56	NU
	Total	NU
	INTERREG	MU
European Social Fund (ESF)		NU
Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:		
No direct measures utilised to benefit Natura. A minor part of an NPP project looked to address some climate change issues for coastal Natura sites.		
Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered:		
Current measures do not reflect Natura requirements.		

Where estimates are available they should be provided. Otherwise indicate as VS Very significant; MU Moderate Use; MI Minor use; NU No use

### D.4 LIFE+

Provide a summary of allocations under LIFE+ for Natura 2000 management,

Full details of each project listed can be accessed via the [EU Life database](#).

Fund	Provision	Level of Use*
LIFE+	Nature and Biodiversity	MU
Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:		
LIFE has been an important source of funding for positive action for biodiversity in Scotland including many Natura 2000-specific projects. Those undertaken to date are listed as follows:		
	Project Title	Project n°
		Year of Finance
		Lead partner country
		Type of Beneficiary
	<b>Conservation of Scottish lowland raised bogs</b>	LIFE92 NAT/UK/013400
		1992 UK
		NGO-Foundation
Themes: Habitats- Bogs and Mires/		

Keywords: information system/protected area/restoration measure/survey/  
 Habitats: Specific (i.e.for technical reasons or specific issue)/  
 Species: None or non applicable/

<b>CONSERVATION OF ACTIVE BLANKET BOG IN SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b>	LIFE94 NAT/UK/000802	1994	UK	NGO- Foundation
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Themes: Habitats- Bogs and Mires/  
 Keywords: agricultural method/forest management/land purchase/management plan/  
 protected area/restoration measure/wetland/  
 Habitats: Specific (i.e.for technical reasons or specific issue)/  
 Species: None or non applicable/

<b>SCOTLAND'S CALEDONIAN FOREST</b>	LIFE94 NAT/UK/000580	1994	UK	Public enterprise
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Themes: Habitats- Forests/  
 Keywords: emergency plan/forest ecosystem/management plan/protected area/  
 restoration measure/survey/  
 Habitats: Non applicable (i.e.species project)/  
 Species: None or non applicable/

<b>Conservation management of priority upland habitats through grazing: guidance on management of upland Natura 2000 sites</b>	LIFE95 NAT/UK/000826	1995	UK	NGO- Foundation
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Themes: Biodiversity issues- High Nature Value farmland/  
 Keywords: management plan/protected area/  
 Habitats: Non applicable (i.e.species project)/  
 Species: None or non applicable/

<b>UK marine SACS - To develop and promote the necessary conservation measures for UK marine SACS</b>	LIFE96 NAT/UK/003055	 1996	UK	National authority
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Keywords: coastal area/environmental impact assessment/integrated management/  
 management plan/protected area/social participation/  
 Habitats: Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)/Coastal lagoons/  
 Estuaries/Large shallow inlets and bays/Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*)/  
 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide/Reefs/*Salicornia* and other  
 annuals colonizing mud and sand/Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the  
 time/*Spartina* swards (*Spartinion maritimae*)/Submerged or partially submerged sea caves/  
 Species: *Phocoena phocoena*/

<b>Atlantic Oakwoods - Restoration of Atlantic Oakwoods</b>	LIFE97 NAT/UK/004244	1997	UK	Mixt enterprise
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Keywords: environmental impact of agriculture/environmental impact of forestry/forest  
 ecosystem/protected area/research project/restoration measure/  
 Habitats: Bog woodland/Caledonian forest/Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica*  
*tetralix*/Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles/  
 Species: None or non applicable/

<b>Wet Woods - Wet Woods Restoration Project</b>	LIFE98 NAT/UK/005431	 1998	UK	National authority
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Keywords: forest ecosystem/management plan/protected area/research project/

restoration measure/

Habitats: "Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*)" / Bog woodland/

Species: None or non applicable/

**Natura 2000 Rivers - Safeguarding  
Natura 2000 Rivers in the UK**

LIFE99

NAT/UK/006088



1999

UK

National  
authority

Keywords: decision making support/ ecological assessment/ environmental impact assessment/ freshwater ecosystem/ monitoring system/ protected area/ research project/ river/

Habitats: Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitriche-Batrachion* vegetation/

Species: *Alosa alosa*/ *Alosa fallax*/ *Austropotamobius pallipes*/ *Coenagrion mercuriale*/ *Cottus gobio*/ *Lampetra fluviatilis*/ *Lampetra planeri*/ *Lurionium natans*/ *Lutra lutra*/ *Margaritifera margaritifera*/ *Petromyzon marinus*/ *Salmo salar*/ *Vertigo moulinsiana*/

**Core forest sites - Woodland Habitat  
Restoration : Core sites for a forest  
habitat network**

LIFE00

NAT/UK/007074



2000

UK

Public  
enterprise

Themes: Habitats- Forests/

Keywords: biotope network/ ecological assessment/ environmental education/ forest ecosystem/ forest management/ forestry/ grazing/ informal negotiation/ integrated management/ landscape conservation policy/ management contract/ management plan/ pest control/ public-private partnership/ reforestation/ restoration measure/ rural development/ site rehabilitation/ social participation/ sustainable development/

Habitats: "Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*)" / "Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines" / Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles/

Species: None or non applicable/

**Blanket bog - Restoring active blanket  
bog of European importance in North  
Scotland**

LIFE00

NAT/UK/007075



2000

UK

NGO-  
Foundation

Keywords: conflicting use/ drainage system/ forest management/ forestry/ informal negotiation/ integrated management/ land purchase/ land restoration/ landscape conservation policy/ management contract/ management plan/ public awareness campaign/ restoration measure/ rural development/ site rehabilitation/ social participation/ wetlands ecosystem/

Habitats: Blanket bogs (\* if active bog)/ Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds/

Species: None or non applicable/

**Scottish raised bogs - Restoration of  
Scottish raised bogs**

LIFE00

NAT/UK/007078



2000

UK

NGO-  
Foundation

Keywords: drainage system/ ecological assessment/ environmental protection advice/ environmental training/ forest management/ indicator/ information network/ integrated management/ land restoration/ landscape conservation policy/ monitoring/ pest control/ public awareness campaign/ renaturation/ research project/ restoration measure/ site rehabilitation/ water resource management/ wetlands ecosystem/

Habitats: Active raised bogs/ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration/

Species: None or non applicable/

**Mink control - Mink control to protect  
important birds in SPAs in the Western**

LIFE00

NAT/UK/007073



2000

UK

Regional  
authority



## Isles

Themes: Biodiversity issues- Invasive species/

Keywords: animal damage/hunting/introduction of animal species/island ecosystem/modelling/monitoring/pest control/population dynamics/public awareness campaign/risk management/wildlife sanctuary/

Species: None or non applicable/

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<b>Capercaillie - Urgent Conservation Management for Scottish Capercaillie</b>	LIFE02 NAT/UK/008541	 2002	UK	NGO- Foundation
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Themes: Species- Birds/

Keywords: conflicting use/ecological assessment/environmental education/forest ecosystem/highland ecosystem/hunting/land purchase/management contract/management plan/monitoring/population dynamics/wildlife sanctuary/

Habitats: Unknown (site without information)/

Species: Tetrao urogallus/

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<b>SCANS-II - Small Cetaceans in the European Atlantic and North Sea</b>	LIFE04 NAT/GB/000245	 2004	UK	University
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Themes: Habitats- Marine/Species- Mammals/

Keywords: aquatic ecosystem/cartography/decision making support/ecological assessment/environmental impact assessment/environmentally responsible behaviour/evaluation method/fishing industry/indicator/information network/information system/management plan/marine ecosystem/monitoring/policy integration/population dynamics/research project/risk assessment/

Habitats: Non applicable (i.e.species project)/

Species: Delphinus delphis/Phocoena phocoena/Tursiops truncatus/

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<b>CASS - Conservation of Atlantic salmon in Scotland</b>	LIFE04 NAT/GB/000250	 2004	UK	Regional authority
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Themes: Biodiversity issues- Ecological coherence/Species- Fish/

Keywords: animal corridor/aquatic ecosystem/conflicting use/conservation of genetic resources/ecological assessment/environmental education/environmental impact assessment/environmental training/environmentally friendly product/environmentally responsible behaviour/evaluation method/fishing industry/freshwater ecosystem/informal negotiation/information network/information system/integrated management/modelling/population dynamics/public awareness campaign/restoration measure/risk management/rural development/social participation/sustainable development/wildlife sanctuary/

Habitats: Unknown (site without information)/

Species: Salmo salar/

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<b>ERDUK - Eradication of Ruddy ducks in the UK to protect the white-headed duck</b>	LIFE05 NAT/UK/000142	 2005	UK	National authority
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Themes: Biodiversity issues- Invasive species/

Keywords: monitoring/population dynamics/protected area/

Species: Oxyura leucocephala/

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<b>Canna Seabirds - Canna seabird recovery project</b>	LIFE05 NAT/UK/000141	 2005	UK	NGO- Foundation
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Themes: Habitats- Marine/

Keywords: island/population dynamics/protected area/

Species: None or non applicable/

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<b>Scottish machair - Conserving machair</b>	LIFE08	 2008	UK	NGO-
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**habitats and species in a suite of Scottish** NAT/UK/000204

Foundation

**Natura sites**

Themes: Species- Birds/

Keywords: agricultural method/migratory species/nature conservation/protected area/

Habitats: Machairs (\* in Ireland)/

Species: Calidris alpina schinzii/Crex crex/Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax/

**PIP GB - Pearls in Peril - securing the future of the freshwater pearl mussel in Great Britain**

LIFE11  
NAT/UK/000383

2011 UK

Regional authority

**LIFE Shiant - Protecting and restoring the Shiant Isles SPA through rat removal, and safeguarding other seabird island SPAs in the UK**

LIFE13  
NAT/UK/000209



2013 UK

NGO-  
Foundation

Themes: Species- Birds/

Keywords: endangered species/island/protected area/restoration measure/

Habitats: Non applicable (i.e.species project)/

Species: Alca torda/Fratercula arctica/Hydrobates pelagicus/Phalacrocorax aristotelis/Puffinus puffinus/

**EcoCo LIFE Scotland - Implementation of integrated habitat networks to improve ecological coherence across the CSGN**

LIFE13  
BIO/UK/000428



2013 UK

National authority

Themes: Biodiversity issues- Ecological coherence/

Keywords: animal corridor/integrated management/protected area/

Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered:

Complexity of LIFE eligibility criteria, costs of developing bids, uncertainty of success and provision and sourcing of match funding can be deterrents for many public bodies and particularly for third sector organisations.

*Where estimates are available they should be provided. Otherwise indicate as VS Very significant; MU Moderate Use; MI Minor use; NU No use*

## D.5 Other key funding sources

Fund	Level of Use*
7th Framework Programme for Research (FP7)	NU
Public/Private Partnership financing schemes	MU
Use of innovative financing	MU
Other (specify)	MU
<p>Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:</p> <p>In Scotland, many Natura sites are in the ownership, management or control of larger NGOs such as RSPB, National Trust for Scotland or Scottish Wildlife Trust who invest substantial amounts (with support from public bodies).</p> <p>Heritage Lottery funding is quite often utilised especially in connection to public access, community involvement and education as well as physical habitat improvement works.</p> <p>Other minor funders include Landfill tax credits and Charitable Trusts/Foundations.</p>	
<p>Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered:</p> <p>Utilising other funds is possible but it is very resource heavy if substantial investment is to be achieved.</p> <p>Many funders have moved away from direct species or habitat investment, but instead prefer to contribute to broader social and economic elements.</p>	

*Where estimates are available they should be provided. Otherwise indicate as VS Very significant; MU Moderate Use; MI Minor use; NU No use*

**E Current estimate of financial needs for management of Natura 2000 for the territory**

*Financing requirements for existing terrestrial, coastal and freshwater sites*

Management Actions	Guidance note number	Key Activities	Total cost (£. Pounds Sterling)
<b>ONE OFF COSTS</b>			
<b>Finalisation of Sites</b>	1	Scientific studies, administration, consultation etc	23,278,648
<b>Management Planning</b>	2	Preparing management plans, establishing management bodies, consultation etc	6,365,382
	<i>1+2</i>	<i>Subtotal: One-off costs management</i>	29,644,030
<b>Investment costs</b>	3	Land purchase	0
	4	one-off (ie not regular annual) payment of compensation for development rights.	0
	5	Infrastructure needed for the improvement / restoration of habitat or species	15,426,883
	6	Infrastructure for public access, interpretation works, observatories and kiosks, etc (contributing to conservation)	5,862,517
	<i>3-6</i>	<i>Subtotal: Investment</i>	21,289,400
	<i>1-6</i>	<i>Subtotal: One-off costs</i>	50,933,430
<b>RECURRENT COSTS</b>			
		<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Total annual cost</b>
<b>Management planning</b>	7	Running costs of management bodies	2,108,766
	8	Review of management plans	199,404
	9	Public communication	26,050
	<i>7 to 9</i>	<i>Subtotal: management planning</i>	2,334,220

***Habitat management and monitoring***

	<b>Agri</b>	<b>Forests</b>	<b>Other terr</b>	<b>Inland waters</b>	<b>Wetlands</b>	<b>Coastal</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Conservation management measures—maintenance and improvement of <b>habitats'</b> favourable conservation status	127154	602126	844438	119126	722084	960720	3,375,648
Conservation management measures—maintenance and improvement of <b>species'</b> favourable conservation status	220500	249920	1431000	205000	1200500	1666000	4,972,920
Implementation of management schemes and agreements with owners and managers of land or water for following certain prescriptions	90000	80000	580000	80000	490000	680000	2,000,000
Provision of services; compensation for rights foregone and loss of income; developing acceptability 'liaison' with neighbours	12067	10726	77764	10726	65698	91172	268,153
Monitoring	28855	93064	200953	41249	165098	218763	747,982

	<b>Agri</b>	<b>Forests</b>	<b>Other terr</b>	<b>Inland waters</b>	<b>Wetlands</b>	<b>Coastal</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Maintenance of facilities for public access to and use of the sites, interpretation works, observatories and kiosks etc.	2700	103600	33900	11600	14900	21400	188,100
Risk management (fire prevention and control, flooding etc)		2500	2000				4,500
Surveillance of the sites	3177	4374	21475	5574	17298	24005	75,903
<b>Subtotal: Habitat management and Monitoring</b>	484453	1146310	3191530	473275	2675578	3662060	11,633,206

***Financing requirements for existing marine sites (Natura 2000 and national Marine Protected Areas in Scottish territorial waters)***

	<b>Lower limit</b>	<b>Upper range</b>
Conservation management measures - FCS	£1 million	£4 million
Implementation of management schemes and agreements	£500 K	£3 million
Monitoring and surveillance – activities and features	£3 million	£15 million
Access, interpretation & engagement	£500 K	£3 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5 million</b>	<b>£25 million</b>

## **F STRATEGIC CONSERVATION PRIORITIES FOR NATURA 2000 FOR THE TERRITORY FOR PERIOD 2014-2020**

### **F.1 Summary of priorities for period (and expected outcomes), for priority habitat types and species having regard to the need for to measurable progress on the nature sub-target under EU 2020 biodiversity strategy and for ensuring good functioning of Natura 2000 network (SACs + SPAs)**

#### **Special Areas of Conservation**

##### **Delivering favourable condition on SAC's.**

As of March 2016 in Scotland 77.4% of SAC features were in favourable condition. This equates to 197 SAC features in unfavourable condition.

We are currently prioritising (to 2017/18) 46 SAC features for positive management action – this will address 25% of the unfavourable SAC features that are amenable to on-site remedies.

The table below identifies the priority SAC features to be prioritised over the next period:

##### **Priority SAC habitats**

<b>SAC feature</b>	<b>No. of SACs</b>
Active raised bogs	1
Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	2
Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grassland	3
Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines	4

**There are no priority Habitats Directive species on SACs in Scotland.**

**F.2 Summary of priorities for other habitats and species covered by nature Directives having regard to the need for measurable progress on nature sub-target under EU 2020 biodiversity strategy (Habitats and Birds Directives) and for ensuring good functioning of Natura 2000 network (SACs + SPAs)**

The table below identifies the non-priority SAC habitat features currently being prioritised:

**Non priority SAC habitats**

<b>SAC feature</b>	<b>No. of SACs</b>
Alpine and Boreal heaths	2
Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands	1
Blanket bogs	5
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	1
Degraded raised bogs	3
Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	1
Embryonic shifting dunes	1
European dry heaths	6
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities	1
Natural eutrophic lakes	1
Northern Atlantic wet heaths	4
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum	5
Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters	1
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)	1
Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands	1

The table below identifies the non-priority SAC species features to be prioritised over the next period:

**Non-priority SAC species**

<b>SAC feature</b>	<b>No. of SACs</b>
Great crested newt ( <i>Triturus cristatus</i> )	1

**Special Protection Areas**

Across the SPA suite in Scotland 71.1% of qualifying features are in favourable condition (as of March 2016). The 28.9% in unfavourable condition equates to 174 SPA features, of which 24 are believed to be amenable to on-site remedies.



We are currently prioritising 4 SPA features for positive management action – this will address 16.6% of the unfavourable SPA features that are amenable to on-site remedies.

The table below identifies the SPA features to be prioritised over the next period:

SPA feature	No. of SPAs
Hen harrier ( <i>Circus cyaneus</i> ), breeding	1
Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ), breeding	3

### Wider measures

Management measures focussed on Natura sites will contribute to progress against target 1 of the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy. However, we recognise that a much bigger impact can be achieved if measures can also be taken for Natura habitats and species in the wider countryside and the value of building habitat networks around Natura sites to increase their resilience to perturbation (such as the impact of climate change) and add value to their potential to deliver favourable conservation status is recognised. Accordingly in Scotland we plan to develop a suite of wider schemes, some linked to the outcomes of the Atlantic Seminar in the New Biogeographical Process. These schemes will include:

- Peatland Action initiative aimed at restoring areas of damaged peatland.
- Heritage Lottery Funded project for peatland management in the Flow County of northern Scotland.
- Research into Nitrogen deposition, its effects on European habitats and potential remedial measures.

In the marine environment, this PAF aims to make a significant contribution towards FCS and the effective management of our seas by promoting the ecosystem-based approach, prioritising co-financing opportunities for a range of activities across Natura, nMPAs and the wider seas. This PAF also recognises the key role the marine environment plays in determining economic output and social well-being by providing resources and services. This ‘natural capital’ provides the basic conditions for human existence (i.e. water, air, food and resources). Five priorities<sup>4</sup> have been identified that will underpin the development of a coherent MPA network and resilient marine environment. These highlights are expanded in Section G.1.c where a list of priority measures are described.

1. strengthening understanding of key environmental, physical and social parameters of the marine environment;
2. improved quantitative data collection, collation and assessment of core biological and physical features;
3. increased knowledge and mitigate the effect of human activities e.g. commercial fishing, marine pollution, renewables etc.;

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<sup>4</sup> Primarily derived from the UK Marine Science Strategy (2010) and the Defra Marine Evidence Plan (2013)

4. better understanding and management of the cumulative and in-combination effects of human activities on the marine environment; and
5. improved knowledge on the marine natural capital assets, how these assets deliver ecosystem services, the relationship between the state of assets and the delivery of ecosystem services.

**F.3 Strategic priorities in relation to investments in Natura 2000 linked to green tourism and jobs, to support climate change mitigation and adaptation or other ecosystem benefits, for research, education, training, awareness and promotion of co-operation (including cross-border) linked to Natura 2000 management**

**Green Tourism**

The Scottish Government will continue to support sustainable tourism as one of the six key sectors in the SG Economic Strategy. Sustainable tourism has the potential to promote environmental responsibility whilst maximising the economic contribution to the Scottish economy.

The Green Tourism Business Scheme is the national sustainable tourism certification scheme for the UK. Originally developed in partnership with VisitScotland, it is now the only national scheme to be independently validated by the International Centre for Responsible Tourism (ICRT) on behalf of VisitEngland, VisitWales, and the Northern Ireland Tourist board and endorsed by VisitScotland and Failte Ireland.

Businesses opting to join Green Tourism are assessed by a qualified grading advisor against a rigorous set of criteria, covering a range of areas, such as, energy, water efficiency waste management, biodiversity etc. Those businesses that meet the required standard, receive a bronze, silver or gold award, based on their level of achievement.

Wildlife tourism and hill walking are valuable niche markets within the tourism industry in Scotland. The industry-led tourism strategy “Tourism Scotland 2020” identifies “nature, heritage and activities” as one of four groups of key assets that the industry will use in targeting the markets that offer Scotland the greatest growth potential.

**Climate change mitigation and adaptation**

On March 14, 2011 the Scottish Government published the report Low Carbon Scotland: Meeting the Emissions Reduction Targets 2010-2022  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/climatechange/scotlands-action/lowcarbon/rpp>.

This fulfils the duty placed on Scottish Ministers by Section 35 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, to lay before the Scottish Parliament a Report on Proposals and Policies setting out specific measures for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to meet Scotland's ambitious statutory targets.

The Peatland Action project was started in September 2012, when the Scottish Government allocated £1.7million from the Green Stimulus Fund to Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) to deliver over 2 years:

- restoration and management of peatlands to maintain carbon stores and encourage carbon sequestration to restore peatland ecosystem functions
- enhanced ecosystem resilience to climate change; and
- build peatland restoration capacity and understanding amongst land managers, contractors, advisors and the public

In 2014/15 Peatland action was allocated £4m towards restoration with future funding embedded within the SRDP. In June 2015 a further £3.5 million was announced that has enabled the project to undertake restoration of another 3,000 hectares; building on the 5,580 hectares that saw physical restoration work between 2013-14. Another significant part of the project has been to spread the wealth of knowledge and expertise built by our project officers, land managers and contractors through a series of demonstration events. In addition the project has leveraged time from partners to collect long term data to monitor the effects of peatland restoration by purchasing monitoring equipment.

Scotland's [Land Use Strategy 2016 – 2021](#) was laid in Parliament on 22 March 2016. It takes a strategic approach to the challenges facing land use in Scotland and focuses on a more integrated approach to land use and the achievement of multiple benefits from our land. The development of the Strategy is a key commitment of Section 57 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. The Land Use Strategy sets out the need to demonstrate how an ecosystems approach might be taken into account in relevant decisions. A consultation on a draft Land Use Strategy 2016 - 2021 ran from 20 November 2015 until 29 January 2016.

Enhancing the size and quality of habitat networks is an important way of building in resilience to climate change and other pressures and allowing associated species to adapt or move to more favourable sites. Scotland has developed a comprehensive spatial inventory of every native woodland over 0.5ha in size (the Native Woodlands Survey of Scotland). This will report in late 2013 and it will provide a strong basis for prioritising measures to enhance native woodland habitat networks around and including Natura woodlands.

## G Description of key measures to achieve priorities

### G.1.a General Priority Measures for Natura 2000

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
Preparation of Natura management plans	Detailed management plans including updates to conservation objectives	All	LIFE+ National public
Preparation of regional MPA management plans	Management plans for all types of MPA produced on a regional basis to deal with overlapping sites, prioritisation of features, conservation objectives, management measures	All	LIFE+ National public

\*Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources

### G.1.b Priority Measures for Natura 2000 agricultural and forest habitats and species

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
Management of grazing	Reducing deer grazing pressure	Alluvial forests; alpine and sub-alpine calcareous grasslands; alpine and boreal heaths; alkaline fens; blanket bog, Caledonian forest; capercaillie; dry heaths; tilio-acerion forests; sub-arctic Salix scrub; species-rich Nardus; alpine pioneer formations; siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands; old sessile oakwoods; north Atlantic wet heaths; hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities.	EAFRD National public Private

<b>Type of activity</b>	<b>Description of measure</b>	<b>Target species/habitats/sites</b>	<b>Potential Financing sources*</b>
Management of grazing	Reducing sheep grazing pressure	Alpine and boreal heaths; blanket bog; dry heaths; limestone pavement; tilio-acerion forests; sub-arctic Salix scrub; species-rich Nardus; siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands; north Atlantic wet heaths	EAFRD
Management of grazing	General grazing management	Active raised bog; degraded raised bogs; dry heaths; freshwater pearl mussel; marsh saxifrage; species rich Nardus; transition mires and quacking bogs; north Atlantic wet heaths	EAFRD
Non-natives	Removing non-native species	Active raised bog; alluvial forests; hard oligotrophic-mesotrophic waters; Caledonian forest; oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters; capercaillie; dry heaths; freshwater pearl mussel; little tern; tilio-acerion forests; slavonian grebe; old sessile oakwoods; transition mires and quacking bogs; natural eutrophic lakes; water courses of plain to montane levels	EAFRD ERDF National Public Private
Muirburn	Improve burning management	Blanket bog; Caledonian forest; Dry heaths; north Atlantic wet heaths	EAFRD Private
Bracken control		Dry heaths; Limestone pavement; tilio-acerion forests; species-rich	EAFRD Private

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
		Nardus; old sessile oakwoods; siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	
Woodland management	General management, deadwood, fence removal	Caledonian forest; capercaillie; tilio-acerion forests; old sessile oakwoods;	EAFRD National Public Private

\*Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources

### G.1.c Priority Measures for Natura 2000 marine and coastal habitats and species

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
Research and management	Improved understanding of mussel/salmonid population dynamics (& host specificity)	Freshwater pearl mussel	Private EMFF LIFE
<b>Ecosystems</b>			
Management planning and related studies	Improve understanding of the value of goods and services provided by marine ecosystems, by developing a framework to evaluate inshore natural capital and the ecosystem services provided. Focus on gaps including nutrient recycling, primary and secondary productivity and the spatial links between services and features.	All	Horizon 2020; EFF; INTERREG
	Understanding how to better define and quantify favourable condition within Natura/nMPAs by evaluating the effectiveness of existing management for dealing with cumulative human pressures, and the development of long-term data series across the UK to improve understanding natural change and variability in habitat and species status.	Natura features, MSFD, OSPAR & Marine (Scotland) Act features, especially those features/sites in unfavourable condition or with 'recover' conservation objectives	Horizon 2020; EMFF; INTERREG; LIFE; EFF; National public

<b>Type of activity</b>	<b>Description of measure</b>	<b>Target species/habitats/sites</b>	<b>Potential Financing sources*</b>
Management planning and related studies; Surveillance	Improve understanding of the contribution made by the management of existing and new Natura/NCMPAs towards achieving GES and to inform future management.	Natura features, MSFD, OSPAR & Marine (Scotland) Act features	EMFF; INTERREG; EUROFLEETS EFF; National public
Ongoing habitat management	Climate change adaptation measures	Coastal lagoons	LIFE ERDF
	Scrub removal	Embryonic shifting dunes; shifting dunes along the shoreline	EAFRD
<b>The sea bed</b>			
Management planning and related studies; Monitoring and surveying	Improving biological and physical data to ensure it is current and proportionate by establishing a long-term seabed monitoring strategy. The Strategy should encompass the enhancement and integration of citizen science input; the development of effective indicators of condition and thresholds for management; the use of novel sampling techniques / technologies; improving data collection and sharing processes; as well as streamlining subsequent reporting.	Natura features, MSFD, OSPAR & Marine (Scotland) Act features	Horizon 2020, LIFE; INTERREG; DCF; EFF; National public
<b>Mobile species</b>			
Review of management plans, strategies and schemes	Better understand the relative effectiveness of site-based vs. wider seas (e.g. sectoral) conservation measures for seabirds and cetaceans across different levels of mobility, dispersion and other ecological characteristics	Cetaceans, seals, seabirds	Horizon 2020; LIFE; EMFF; INTERREG

<b>Type of activity</b>	<b>Description of measure</b>	<b>Target species/habitats/sites</b>	<b>Potential Financing sources*</b>
Management planning and related studies; Monitoring and surveying; Training and education	Improving data to ensure it is current and proportionate by establishing a long-term monitoring strategy including sub-regional monitoring for key species; improving survey data gathering, sharing and reporting; and completion of SCANS-III.	Cetaceans and seals	Horizon 2020; LIFE; EMFF; COST; EUROFLEETS; INTERREG; National public
Monitoring and surveying	Increase understanding of direct and indirect interactions between predators, and between predators and prey, to subsequently inform monitoring, evaluation e.g. grey seals on harbour seals/porpoises; bottlenose dolphin on other cetacean species such as porpoises; and cetaceans/seabirds and prey like cod and sandeels.	Harbour porpoises, bottlenose dolphins, seabirds	Horizon 2020; EMFF; INTERREG, National Public
Management planning and related studies	Maintain &/or restore secure FCS for seabirds and cetaceans by establishing, and supporting effective adaptive management approaches to human activities within current & potential future marine SPAs & SACs and the wider environment	All HD and BD species	Horizon 2020; EMFF; INTERREG, National Public
Research and management	Implementation of site remedies and other responses in response to emerging knowledge from national research into reasons for declines	Common seal	National public
<b>Pressures and threats</b>			
Management planning and related studies; Surveillance; Training, education	Improve understanding of the impact of commercial fishing activity (and any changes in practice such as discarding) on the condition of the sea bed; status of prey species; incidental capture, feeding ecology and long term survival of seabirds, mammals and elasmobranchs, in order to develop effective management measures.	All HD, BD, OSPAR, MSFD, UK Marine Acts features	Horizon 2020; INTERREG; LIFE; COST; EMFF; INTERREG; National Public; Industry
Surveillance;	Exploring the impacts of the oil, gas and	All HD, BD, OSPAR, MSFD,	Horizon 2020; INTERREG;



<b>Type of activity</b>	<b>Description of measure</b>	<b>Target species/habitats/sites</b>	<b>Potential Financing sources*</b>
Management planning and related studies; Monitoring and surveying	renewable industries on habitats and species. This will involve working with industry, regulators to increase understanding of the impacts, and develop better solutions for management and mitigation. It will include: noise mitigation & its effectiveness, including use of acoustic deterrents; impacts & mitigation of manmade structures in the marine environment and their decommissioning; increase understanding of and the development of solutions/regulation of key impacts on birds, cetaceans and prey species upon which they depend; development of approaches for the assessment of cumulative and in combination effects at different scales.	UK Marine Acts but particularly cetaceans, seals, seabirds	LIFE; COST; EMFF; INTERREG; National Public; Industry

\*Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources

#### **G.1.d Priority Measures for Natura 2000 wetlands habitats and species (including peatlands)**

<b>Type of activity</b>	<b>Description of measure</b>	<b>Target species/habitats/sites</b>	<b>Potential Financing sources*</b>
Hydrological management	Restoring natural hydrological regimes at heath and bog sites	Active raised bogs; degraded raised bogs	EAFRD National Public Private
Scrub/tree removal		Degraded raised bog; Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes; fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation; freshwater pearl mussel; great crested newt; slender green feather moss;	EAFRD
Wildlife crime	Control of pearl fishing	Freshwater pearl mussel	National Public

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
prevention			
River management	Facilitate movement of salmonids	Freshwater pearl mussel	LIFE
River management	Management of sediments	Freshwater pearl mussel; river lamprey; sea lamprey	LIFE
Freshwater management	Control of water quality	Hard oligotrophic-mesotrophic waters; freshwater pearl mussel; river lamprey; sea lamprey; slavian grebe; slender green feather moss; transition mires and quacking bogs	National Public Private
River management	Riparian woodland management	Freshwater pearl mussel; river lamprey; sea lamprey	EAFRD

\*Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources

## G.2 Other priority measures

### G.2.a Priority Measures for securing ecosystem benefits of Natura 2000, especially in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
Carbon sequestration	Peatland restoration	active raised bogs; degraded raised bogs; blanket bog	EAFRD LIFE National Public Private
Flood management	Development and application of sympathetic flood control schemes	all relevant riparian habitats and species	EAFRD LIFE National Public

\*Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources

### G.2.B Priority Measures for promoting sustainable tourism and employment in relation to Natura 2000

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
Recreation management		fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation; alpine and sub-alpine heaths; capercaillie	National Public ERDF

\*Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources

### G.2.c Priority Measures to promote innovative approaches in relation to Natura 2000

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
Engagement with stakeholders and local communities	To promote more opportunities to contribute to management of designated sites, and greater understanding of the scientific rationale for, and possible benefits of designations	Marine species and habitats	LIFE ERDF national budgets
Smarter methods of efficient and effective monitoring and surveillance	More collaboration on use of marine survey vessels, exploration of new survey techniques such as aerial surveys and satellite imagery	Marine species and habitats	LIFE Framework funding national budgets

\*Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources

### G.3 Summary table of priority measures per habitat type and species

<b>Feature (habitat type or species)</b>	<b>Conservation status (code from HD Article 17 report or BD Article 12 report)</b>	<b>Pressures and threats (codes from HD Article 17 report or BD Article 12 report)</b>	<b>Priority measure (from section G of PAF, possibly by coding)</b>
Alluvial forests	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; non-natives
alpine and sub-alpine calcareous grasslands	Unfavourable		Management of grazing
alpine and boreal heaths	Unfavourable		Management of grazing
alkaline fens	Unfavourable		Management of grazing
blanket bog	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; muirburn
Caledonian forest	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; non-natives; muirburn; woodland management
capercaillie			Management of grazing; non-natives; woodland management; recreation management
dry heaths	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; non-natives; muirburn; bracken control
tilio-acerion forests	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; non-natives; bracken control; woodland management
sub-arctic Salix scrub	Unfavourable		Management of grazing
species-rich Nardus	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; bracken control
alpine pioneer formations			Management of grazing
siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands	Unfavourable		Management of grazing
old sessile oakwoods	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; non-natives; bracken control; woodland management
north Atlantic wet heaths	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; muirburn
hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities	Unfavourable		Management of grazing
Limestone pavement	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; bracken control

<b>Feature (habitat type or species)</b>	<b>Conservation status (code from HD Article 17 report or BD Article 12 report)</b>	<b>Pressures and threats (codes from HD Article 17 report or BD Article 12 report)</b>	<b>Priority measure (from section G of PAF, possibly by coding)</b>
Active raised bog	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; non-natives; hydrological management
Degraded raised bog	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; hydrological management; scrub/tree removal
Freshwater pearl mussel	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; non-natives; research and management; scrub/tree removal; wildlife crime prevention; river management; freshwater management
Marsh saxifrage	Unfavourable		Management of grazing
Transition mires and quaking bogs	Unfavourable		Management of grazing; non-natives; freshwater management
Hard oligotrophic-mesotrophic waters	Unfavourable		Non-natives; freshwater management
oligotrophic-mesotrophic standing waters	Unfavourable		Non-natives
Little tern			Non-natives
Slavonian grebe			Non-natives; freshwater management
Natural eutrophic lakes	Unfavourable		Non-natives
Water courses of plain to montane levels	Unfavourable		Non-natives
Silicious rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	Unfavourable		Bracken control
Embryonic shifting dunes	Unfavourable		Scrub removal
Shifting dunes along the shoreline	Unfavourable		Scrub removal
Common seal	Unfavourable		Research and management
Reefs	Unknown		Research and management
Coastal lagoons	Unfavourable		Habitat management
Sandbanks slightly covered	Unfavourable		Research and management

<b>Feature (habitat type or species)</b>	<b>Conservation status (code from HD Article 17 report or BD Article 12 report)</b>	<b>Pressures and threats (codes from HD Article 17 report or BD Article 12 report)</b>	<b>Priority measure (from section G of PAF, possibly by coding)</b>
by seawater all the time			
Large shallow inlets and bays	Unfavourable		Research and management
Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes	Unfavourable		Scrub/tree removal
Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation	Unfavourable		Scrub/tree removal; recreation management
Great crested newt	Unfavourable		Scrub/tree removal
Slender green feather moss	Favourable		Scrub/tree removal; freshwater management
River lamprey	Unfavourable		River management; freshwater management
Sea lamprey	Unfavourable		River management; freshwater management
Alpine and sub-alpine heaths	Unfavourable		Recreation management

**Section H: Monitoring, evaluation and updating of PAFs**

The main tools for monitoring progress of Scotland's PAF will be the reporting rounds for Article 17 and Article 12 of the Habitats and Birds Directives respectively. The next reporting round is in 2018 with results expected to be made public in 2019/2020. Success in achieving improved conservation status will inform future iterations of this document.

In the marine environment the close relationship between the Nature Directives and MSFD and the clear role that a coherent network of MPAs plays in the achievement of GES ensures that progress towards one will also benefit the other at least for the lifetime of this PAF. The MSFD will drive the management of all marine protected areas in the UK and will influence future priorities. The provision of management advice to Government for inshore marine sites, the subsequent implementation of management measures and the development of regional MPA management plans will provide a clear audit trail for monitoring Scotland's progress in delivering prioritised actions in the inshore marine environment. Scotland is still part way through a programme of MPA (including marine SACs and SPAs); once all of the sites have been designated, priorities for the wider network may change and any updated information and knowledge will be fed into future update of this PAF. There is also a national requirement for reporting on MPAs under both Marine Acts. The first exercise is scheduled for completion in 2018 and will provide an assessment at both the site and network level. This will represent another key driver in future revisions of the marine parts of Scotland's PAF.