

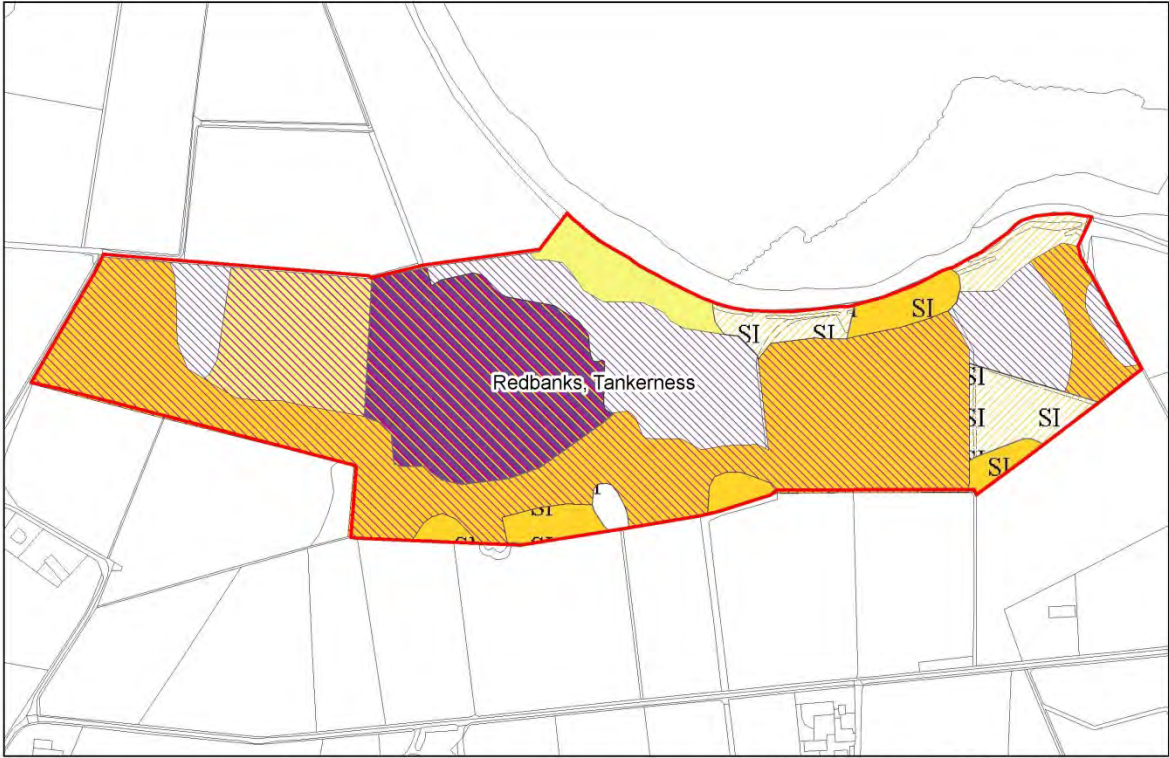
## Contents:

Redbanks. ....	4
Reed Meadow, Loch of Harray. ....	6
Rendall Moss. ....	7
Rennibister. ....	9
Rerwick Head. ....	10
Resting Hill. ....	12
Roos Loch. ....	13
Rose Ness. ....	15
Rossmyre. ....	16
Rothiesholm. ....	18
Row Head. ....	20
Rysa Little. ....	21
Sanday School. ....	23
Sandwick. ....	24
Saviskaill Head. ....	25
Scabra Head. ....	27
Scar Erratic. ....	29
Sealskerry. ....	30
Setter. ....	31
Shingly Hill. ....	33
Skail. ....	34
South East Coast. ....	36
South-east Stronsay Coast. ....	38
South Links. ....	39
South Westray Coast. ....	41

St Peter's Pool.....	42
Stennie Hill. ....	44
Stews.....	46
Stones of Via. ....	47
Sutherland Links.....	48
Swandale.....	49
Swart Howe. ....	51
Taftend. ....	53
Taracliff – Point of Ayre. ....	54
The Altar.....	55
The Fidge. ....	56
The Galt.....	58
The Loons.....	59
The Ouse, Aikerness.....	61
The Ouse.....	62
The Shunan.....	63
The Taing. ....	65
Tofts Ness. ....	67
Tronston. ....	69
Tui Fea. ....	70
Unigarth.....	71
Vasa Loch.....	73
Ve Ness. ....	75
Veddertownmail.....	77
Vias Moss.....	78
Vinquoy Wood. ....	79

Ward Hill and Chapel Hill.....	80
Ward Hill East.....	82
Ward Hill North.....	83
Ward Hill.....	85
Warebeth.....	87
Warsetter.....	88
Wellpark.....	89
West Aikerness.....	90
Westbrough.....	92
Western Moors, Flotta.....	93
Whaness Burn.....	95
Whitaloo Point.....	96
Whitemill.....	97
Widford Burn.....	99
Widford Hill.....	101
Witter, Braebuster Burn and Hoy Lodge Marsh.....	103
Yinstay Loch.....	105

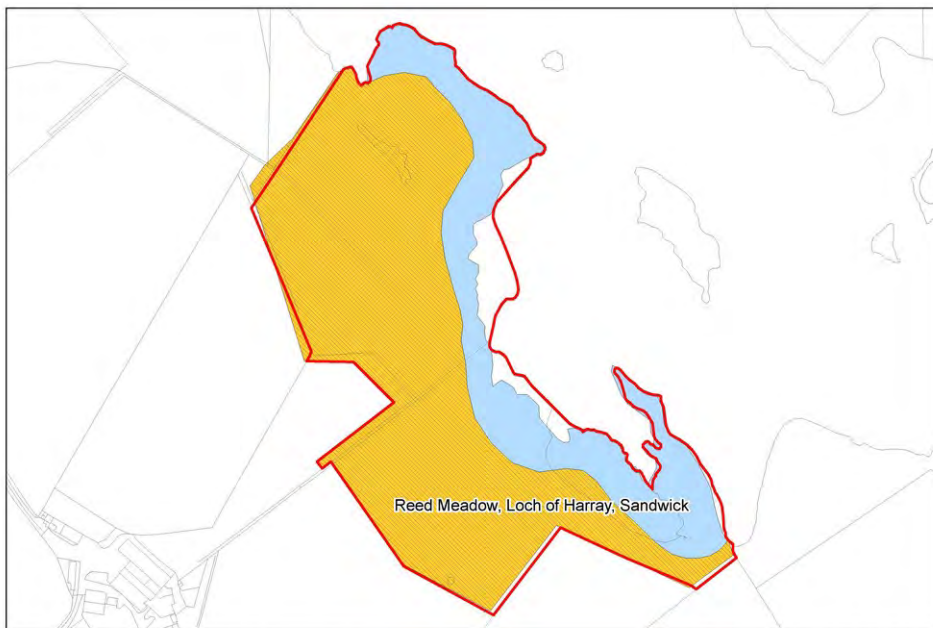
<b>Redbanks.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Tankerness.
<b>Area:</b> c. 18 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 181.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>The site is centred on a former basin of deep peat, now worked out, with shallower peat to east and west also with traces of peat workings and/or drainage ditches. The central part, comprising flooded, worked-out peat banks is marsh and swamp, intersected by remnant banks of drier peat. Around the northern fringe of the centre is thinner and drier peat, mainly heather-covered. The rest, and largest part, of the site comprises a mixture of habitats, grazed and not grazed, including marshy grassland with abundant meadowsweet, acid grassland with rushes, short heather/grass mosaics and small pools and swamps. Some parts are rich in plant species, other less so.</p> <p>The site supports breeding waders, notably curlew and redshank. Shelduck and mallard also nest here, along with small birds such as meadow pipit, reed bunting and linnet.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Blanket bog*</p> <p>Basin bog</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Linnet*</p> <p>Reed bunting*</p> <p>Shelduck</p>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Redbanks, Tankerness (Site ref No: 181)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Reed Meadow, Loch of Harray.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sandwick.
<b>Area:</b> c. 8 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 182.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  The site comprises an extensive reedbed fringing the loch of Harray, with adjacent marsh and marshy grassland dominated by meadowsweet and rushes. There are very wet places in this marsh with plants such as bogbean and bog cotton.  The reedbed provides habitat for many nesting sedge warblers and reed buntings. A variety of waders breed on the site, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b></p> <p>Reedbeds*  Lowland meadows*</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b></p> <p>Lapwing*  Curlew*  Redshank  Snipe  Sedge warbler  Reed bunting*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	

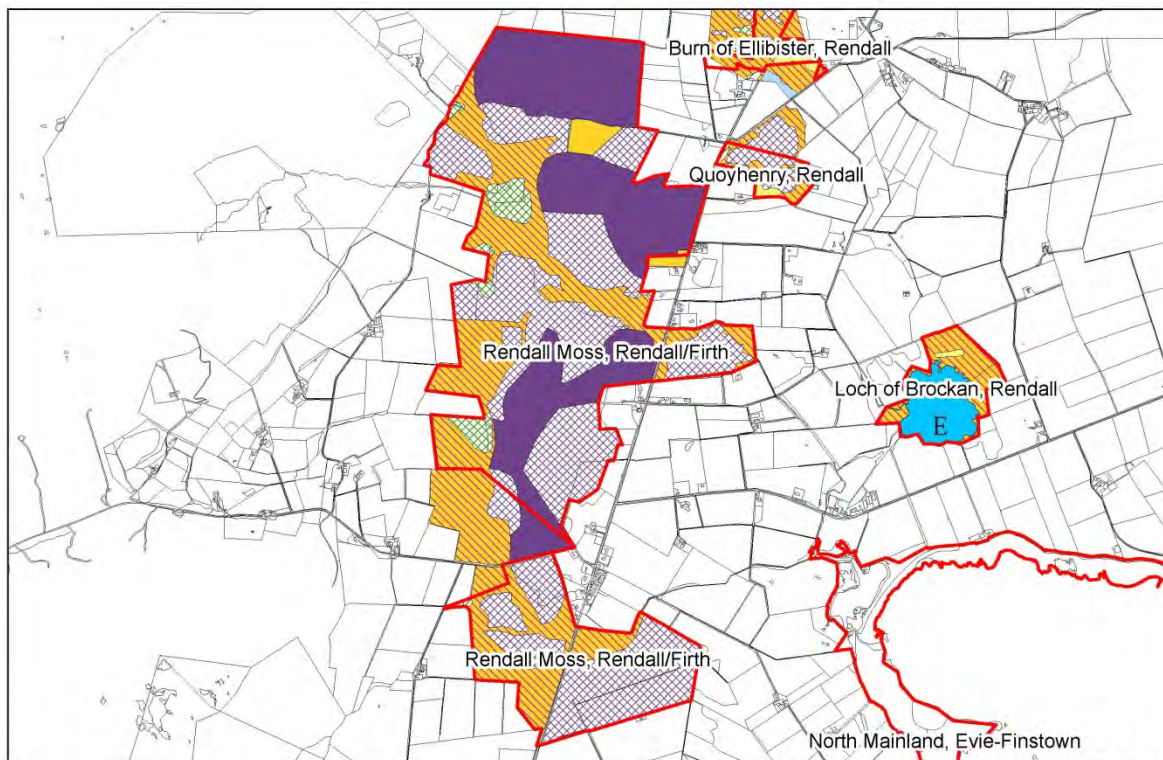


Reed Meadow, Loch of Harray, Sandwick (Site ref No: 182)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2016

<b>Rendall Moss.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Rendall/Firth.
<b>Area:</b> c. 233 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 183.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This site comprises a large area of lowland peat bog, with the burns of Bluebrae and Blubbersdale running through it. Much of the peat has been cut-over but the vegetation has recovered: abundant plants of this blanket bog are heather and bog cotton, with bog asphodel, purple moor grass and sphagnum moss. More elevated, drier parts are more heather-dominated. Worked-out peat cuttings and burn sides have marshy vegetation, mainly dominated by meadowsweet, with rushes and patches of yellow iris and reed canary-grass. Pools in the peat bog and the marsh have some locally and nationally uncommon water plants and harbour dragonflies and damselflies. There are many patches of native willows, these forming dense thickets in places.</p> <p>The site is important for breeding waders, in particular for the extraordinarily large number of curlew. Other waders nesting on the site include oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe and redshank. There is a large colony of common gulls. Smaller birds nesting here include skylark, meadow pipit, wren, sedge warbler, reed bunting, songthrush, dunnock and willow warbler. Hen harrier and short-eared owl hunt over the area.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Wet woodlands</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Blanket bog*</p> <p>Basin bog</p> <p>Lowland fens*</p> <p>Burns and canalised burns</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Common gull</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Sedge warbler</p> <p>Reed bunting*</p> <p>Dunnock</p> <p>Willow warbler</p> <p>Songthrush*</p> <p>Otter*</p> <p>Large heath butterfly*</p> <p>Black darter dragonfly</p> <p>Large red damselfly</p> <p>Blue-tailed damselfly</p> <p>Moss carder bee*</p> <p>Tea-leaved willow</p> <p>Grey willow</p> <p>Slender-leaved pondweed*</p> <p>Least bur-reed</p>

\* Nationally important habitats and species.

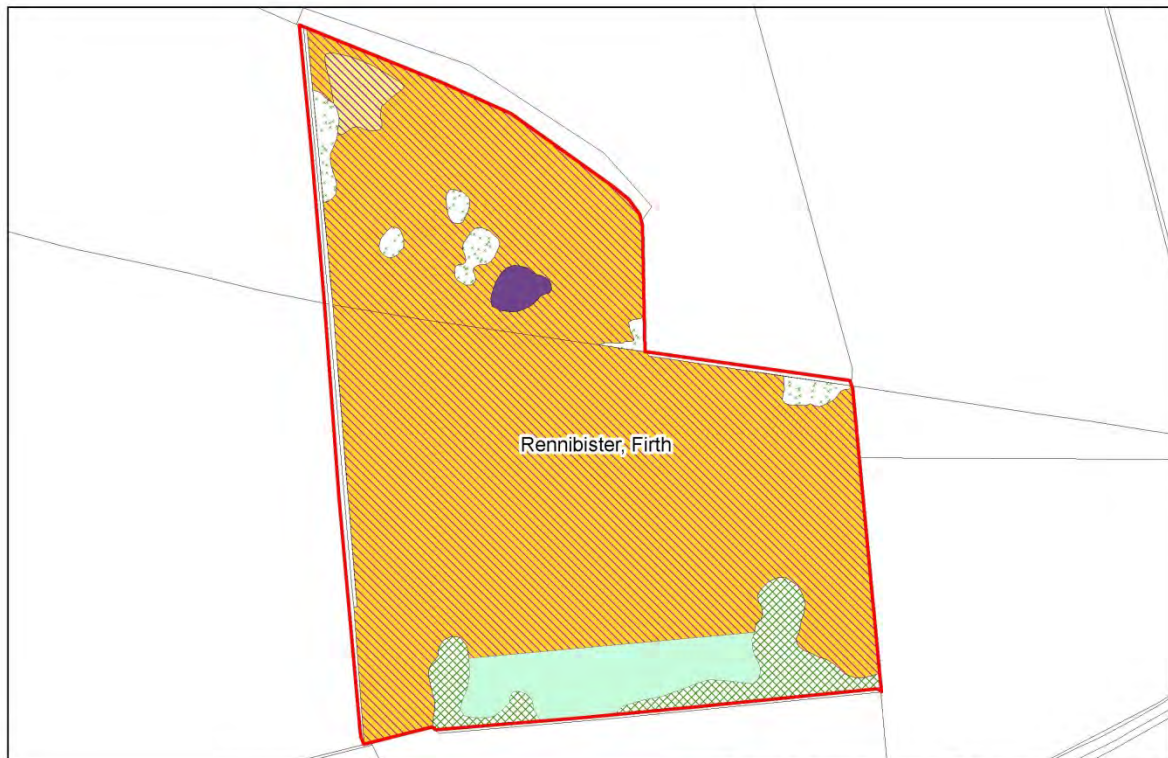


Rendall Moss, Rendall/Firth (Site ref No: 183)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012



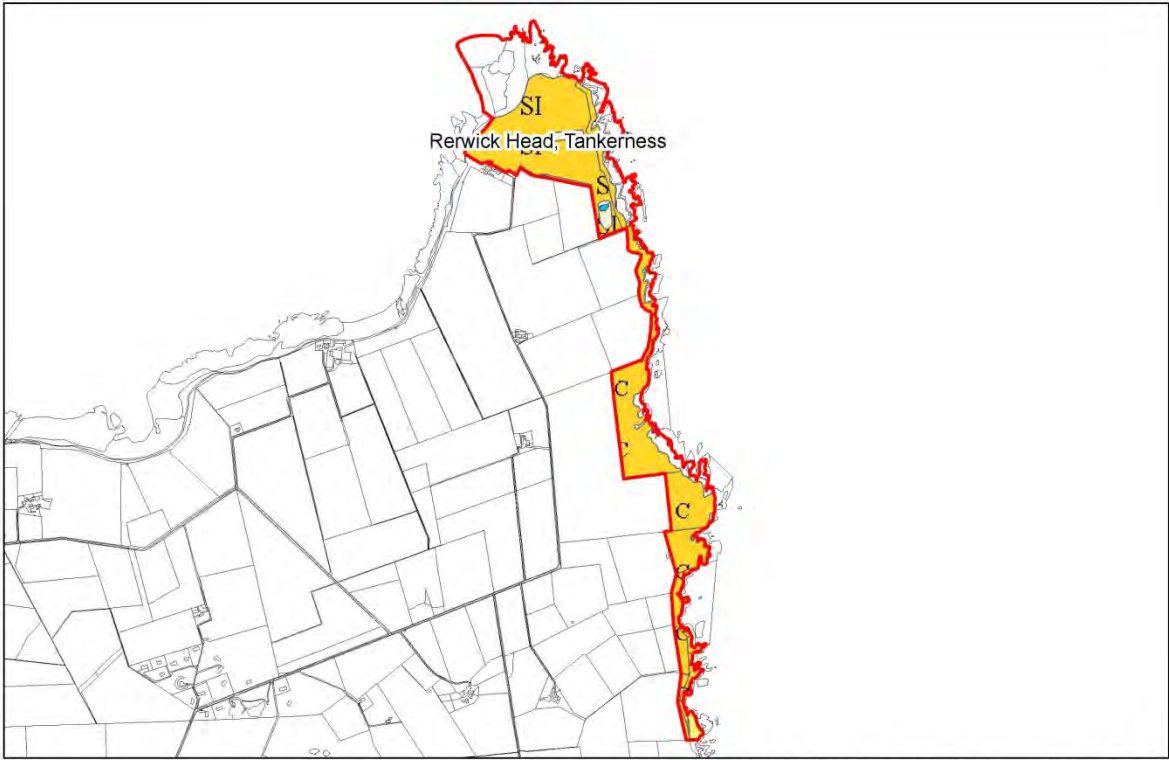
<b>Rennibister.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Firth.
<b>Area:</b> c. 9 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 184.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  This site mainly comprises marsh, the dominant plants being rushes, horsetails and coarse grasses. The northern part of the site is more varied: meadowsweet covers much of it, with some patches of heather and native willow bushes. Gorse grows on drier ground along one side of the site, and a substantial area next to it has been planted with mainly native trees.</p> <p>The site supports breeding waders in good numbers, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. Smaller birds nesting here include meadow pipit, linnet, sedge warbler, greenfinch and dunnock.</p>	
<b>Special Habitats:</b>	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Lapwing* Curlew* Snipe Redshank Linnet*
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Rennibister, Firth (Site ref No: 184)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

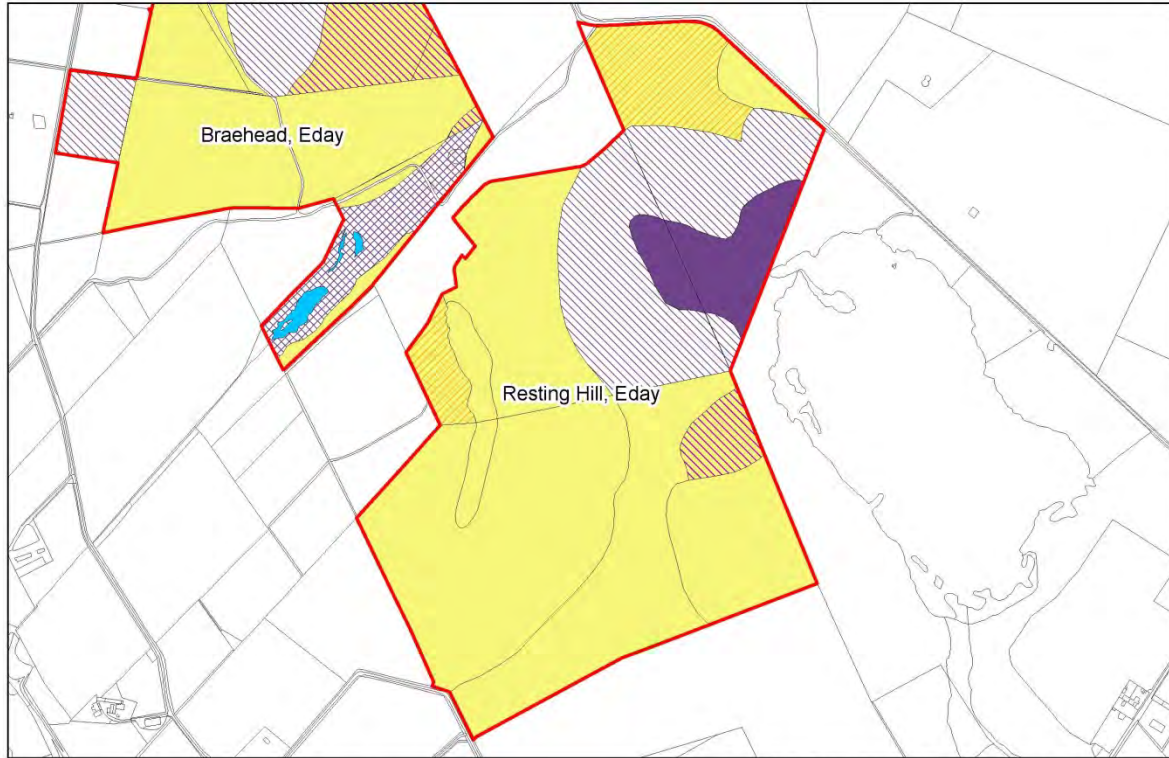
<b>Rerwick Head.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Tankerness.
<b>Area:</b> c. 34 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 185.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>Much of the Rerwick headland is boulders and rock above normal high water mark. There is semi-natural grassland on the site of a wartime camp: this has a variety of species, including abundant red clover, yellow rattle, silverweed and buttercups. Butterflies and bumblebees, including rare species, abound in this grassland. Short maritime grassland, with sea plantain and spring squill, is confined to the extreme coastal edge on the east side of the point. Along the coastline south of Rerwick Head is a narrow band, sometimes widening out, of short maritime grassland along with heathland dominated by heather and crowberry. Flowers occurring here include grass of Parnassus, spring squill and eyebrights. The cliff slopes themselves have sea pinks and abundant Scots lovage.</p> <p>The area has not been surveyed for nesting birds, but the habitats can be expected to attract nesting waders like curlew, redshank, snipe and lapwing, also skylark and meadow pipit.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Crowberry heath</p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*</p> <p>Maritime grassland</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Breeding waders and grassland birds*</p> <p>Great yellow bumblebee*</p> <p>Moss carder bee*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Rerwick Head, Tankerness (Site ref No: 185)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

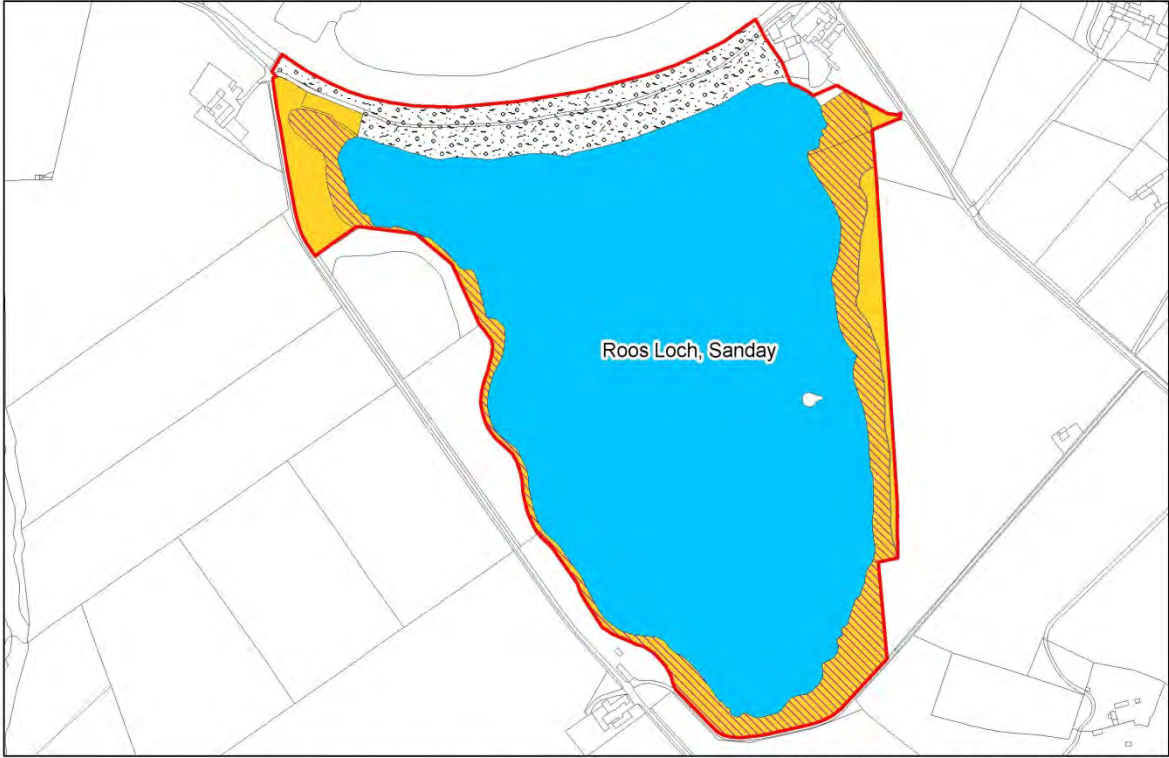
<b>Resting Hill.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Eday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 35 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 186.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>The site comprises the summit of Resting Hill and its eastern slopes descending to the Mill Loch. Much of the broad summit of the hill has a cover of fragmented thin peat, with a cover of heather, and much eroded bare ground. Lower slopes of the hill have deeper peat, especially the lowest part, north of the Mill Loch, where the deeper, wet peat, has been less cut over and has blanket bog vegetation with plants such as bog cotton and sphagnum moss along with the heather.</p> <p>A variety of waders nest on the site, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. There is a colony of common gulls and the one or two pairs of arctic skuas. Smaller birds breeding here include skylark, meadow pipit and twite.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Blanket bog*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Arctic skua*</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Twite*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Resting Hill, Eday (Site ref No: 186)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

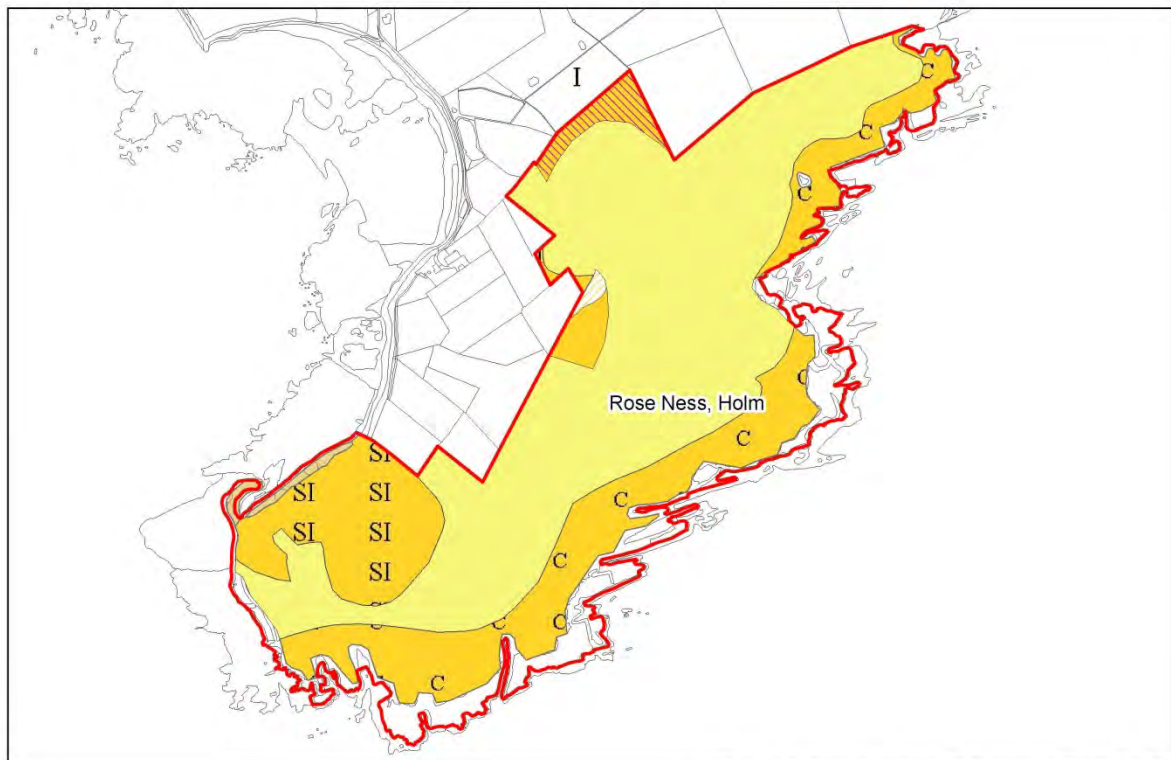
<b>Roos Loch.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sanday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 20 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 187.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This site comprises Roos Loch, a narrow fringe of marshy grassland and the ayre - a natural barrier of shingle and boulders – that separates it from the sea. Several species of pondweed and other water plants grow in the loch, including a nationally scarce stonewort.</p> <p>There are a small number of breeding birds on the site, including a pair of mute swans.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Eutrophic standing waters*</p> <p>Vegetated shingle*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Lesser bearded stonewort*</p> <p>Otter*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Roos Loch, Sanday (Site ref No: 187)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Rose Ness.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Holm.
<b>Area:</b> c. 51 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 188.
<b>Site Description:</b> The Rose Ness headland is mostly moorland, with very short heather and crowberry. On the eastern side are steep cliffs; on the western side a low rocky shore and a short shingle spit. Edging the exposed cliff-top on the eastern side is short maritime grassland with plants including spring squill, sea plantain and sea pink. A variety of waders breed on the site, including oystercatcher, lapwing, curlew and redshank. Great skua breed and there is a colony of common gulls. Arctic terns have nested on the shingle spit. Smaller birds nesting include skylark and meadow pipit.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Upland heath* Crowberry heath Maritime cliff and slope* Maritime grassland	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Arctic tern* Great skua Lapwing* Curlew* Redshank Skylark*
* Nationally important habitats and species.	

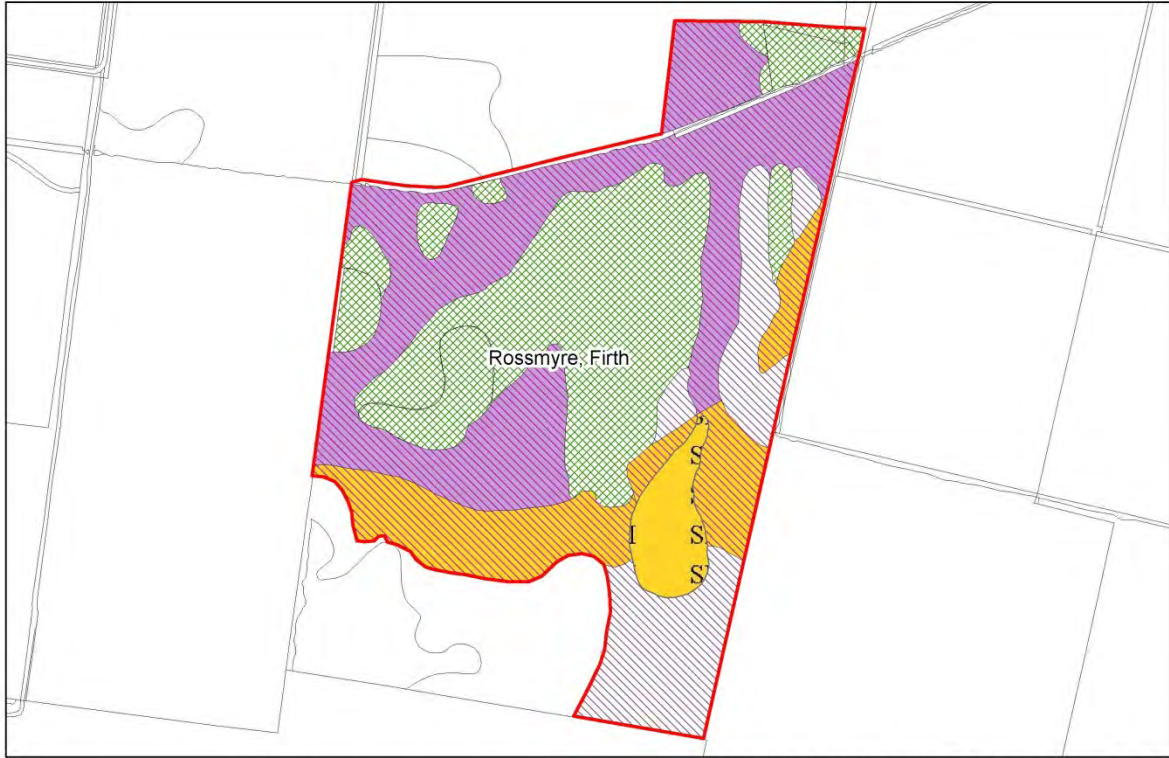


Rose Ness, Holm (Site ref No: 188)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only 2012

<b>Rossmyre.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Firth.
<b>Area:</b> c. 13 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 189
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>An area of marsh on deep peat, with dense scrub covering a large part of it. 95% of the scrub comprises native Orkney willow species, the remainder being the alien shrub salmonberry. Open areas between the willow bushes are dominated by purple moor grass growing in large tussocks. A small burn threads through the site, in places becoming lost in swamps. Fringes of the site have peat bog with heather and bog cotton, and marshy grassland with abundant meadowsweet.</p> <p>Many curlew nest on the site, and a few oystercatcher and snipe. Smaller birds breeding here include skylark, meadow pipit, sedge warbler, willow warbler, linnet and reed bunting. Hen harrier, short-eared owl and merlin hunt over the area.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Lowland fens*</p> <p>Wet woodlands*</p> <p>Basin bog</p> <p>Burns and canalised burns</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Sedge warbler</p> <p>Willow warbler</p> <p>Linnet*</p> <p>Reed bunting*</p> <p>Hunting birds of prey</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	

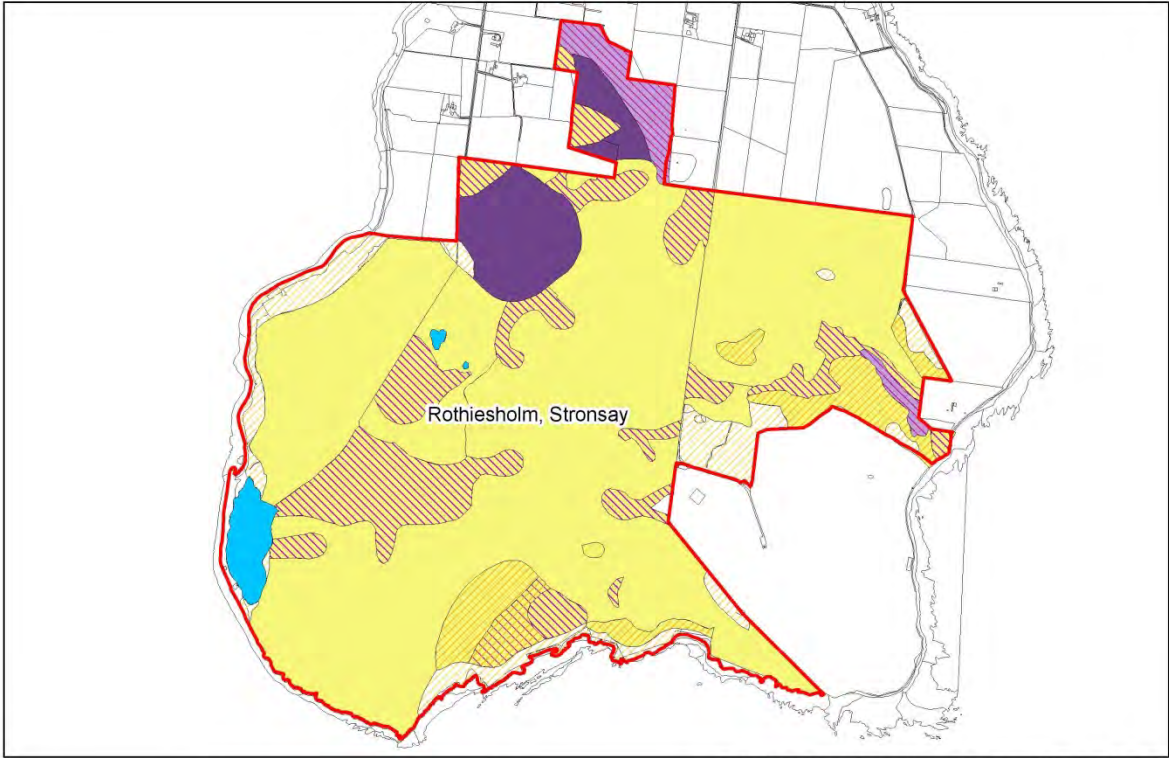




Rossmyre, Firth (Site ref No: 189)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

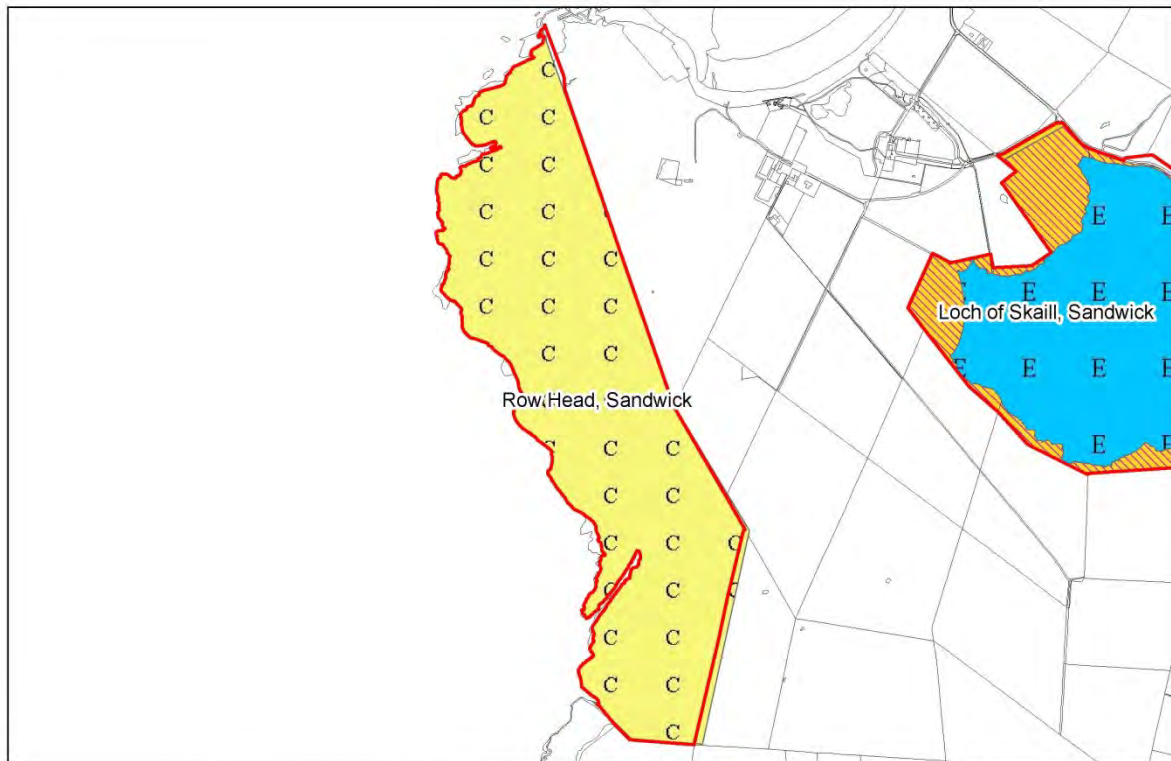
<b>Rothiesholm</b>	<b>Location:</b> Stronsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 299 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 190.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>Rothiesholm Head has the largest area of heather moorland in Stronsay. Most is dry and covered in heather with few other accompanying plants, but there are a variety of other important habitats as well. Deeper peat accumulated in hollows on the hill and more especially the basin at Millfield, supports bog vegetation with abundant bog cotton along with heather and crowberry. Very locally it is wet enough for sphagnum mosses. Locally there are marshes, especially at Millfield, with rushes, sedges, and flowers such as ragged robin. Patches of grassland on the acidic soil are generally rather poor in plant species, except on high, steep slopes on the west coast where they become much more flowery, with plants including violets, bird's-foot trefoil and wild thyme. The site includes Straenia water, a large loch impounded by a long ayre of boulders.</p> <p>The site supports many breeding waders, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. It is also important for nesting arctic and great skuas. There are colonies of common and great black-backed gulls. Skylark, twite and meadow pipit are abundant nesting species. The loch attracts red-throated divers. Breeding birds of prey have been recorded here.</p> <p>The coastal features at Straenia Water have also been recognised for their geomorphological (the shape and evolution of landforms) interest and importance.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Crowberry heath</p> <p>Upland flushes, fens and swamps*</p> <p>Oligotrophic and dystrophic lochs*</p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*</p> <p>Basin bog</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Red-throated diver*</p> <p>Breeding birds of prey*</p> <p>Arctic skua*</p> <p>Great skua</p> <p>Arctic tern*</p> <p>Common gull</p> <p>Great black-backed gull</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Twite*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Rothiesholm, Stronsay (Site ref No: 190)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

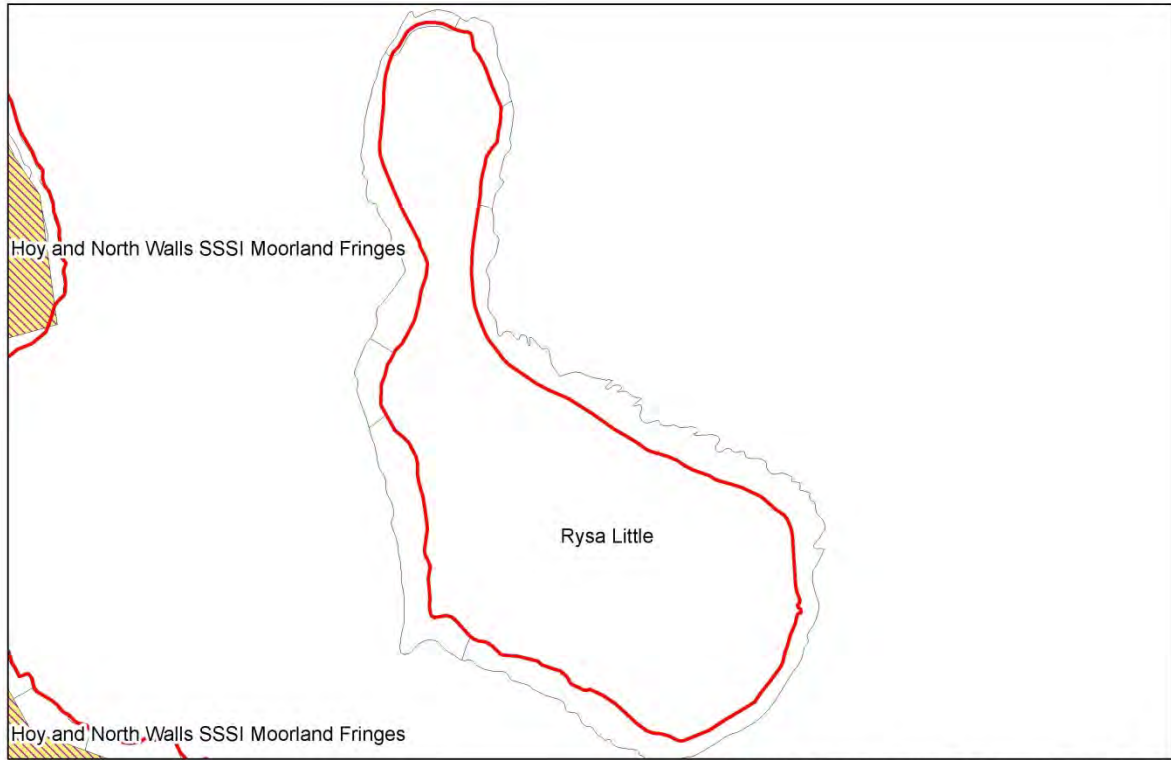
<b>Row Head.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sandwick.
<b>Area:</b> c. 70 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 191.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  An area of exposed cliff-top coastal grassland and heath. Typical coastal grassland plants grow nearest the cliffs, especially thrift, sea plantain, eyebright and spring squill. Further inland, short, wind-clipped heather and crowberry predominate, interwoven with small herbs such as thyme and bird's-foot trefoil.</p> <p>A large number of oystercatchers nest on the site, and smaller numbers of lapwing and ringed plover. There is a colony of common gulls and a few arctic skuas. Small birds nesting include pied wagtail, rock pipit, meadow pipit and wheatear. The cliffs hold large numbers of nesting seabirds.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b>  Maritime cliff and slope*  Maritime heath  Maritime grassland</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b>  Lapwing*  Arctic skua*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Row Head, Sandwick (Site ref No: 191)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

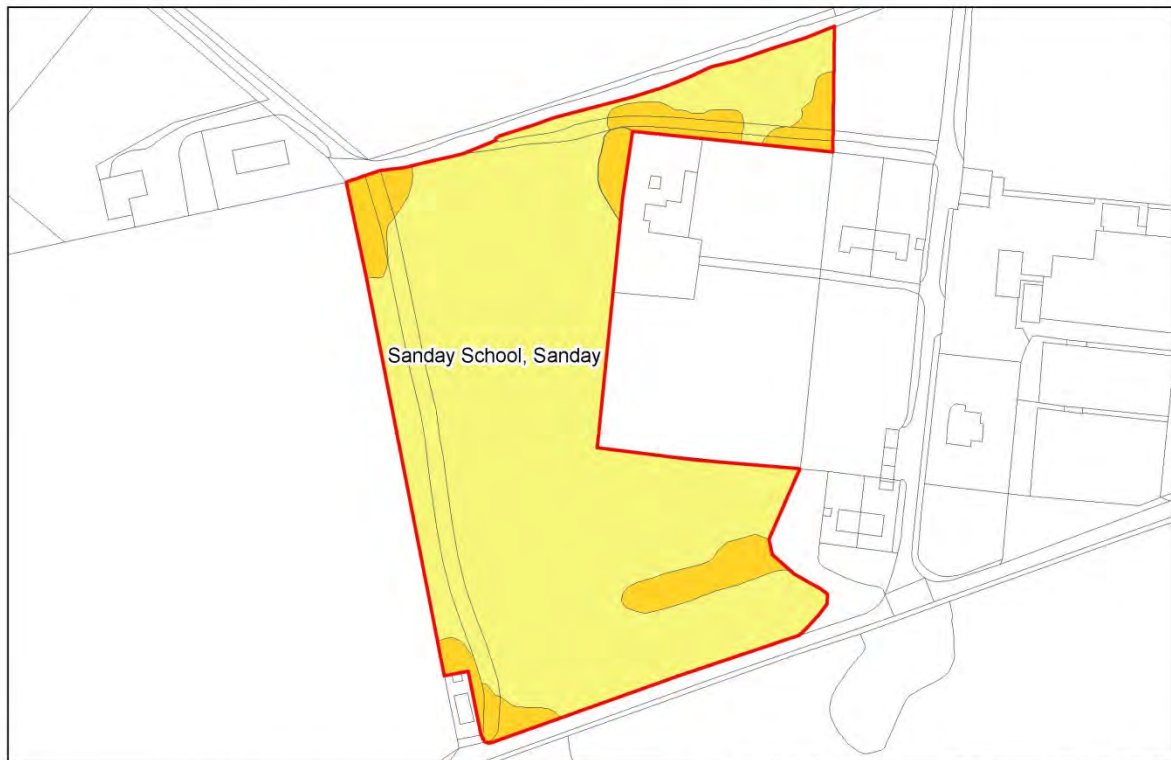
<b>Rysa Little.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Scapa Flow.
<b>Area:</b> c. 38 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 192.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>The island is almost entirely peat-covered. Much of the deeper peat has been cut over and has become quite dry, and heather completely dominates the vegetation. The only area without peat is some marshy grassland around springs in two places. All this vegetation is grazed hard by sheep and there is little variety, except for the frequent occurrence of wood sorrel, a rare plant in Orkney. The rare and inconspicuous small adder's-tongue (a fern) was recorded many years ago and may still be present.</p> <p>Most of the shoreline is of boulders and coarse shingle, at the foot of steeply sloping banks, except along part of the western side and more obviously at the north, where it is formed of vertical cliff up to 8 metres in height. The ledges are inaccessible to sheep and support more varied vegetation than elsewhere on the island, with plants such as common polypody (a fern), and goldenrod.</p> <p>The site supports a variety of breeding birds. Waders such as oystercatcher, curlew and snipe breed in good numbers. There are colonies of great black-backed and lesser black-backed gulls, and breeding eider. A variety of small birds also nest, including skylark, meadow pipit and pied wagtail.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Blanket bog*</p> <p>Lowland fens*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Lesser black-backed gull</p> <p>Wood sorrel</p> <p>Small adder's-tongue*</p>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Rysa Little (Site ref No: 192)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Sanday School.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sanday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 2 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 193.
<b>Site Description:</b> This small area of dry heather moorland has a variety of flowering herbs growing among it. It is a rare survival of the type of moorland that would once have covered much of the higher land of the island. There are small patches of natural grassland too, with flowers such as ox-eye daisy and knapweed. It has the potential to be a useful educational resource for the nearby secondary school.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Upland heath* Species-rich heath	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Moss carder bee*
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Sanday School, Sanday (Site ref No: 193)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Sandwick.</b>	<b>Location:</b> South Ronaldsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 2 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 194.
<b>Site Description:</b> An area of vegetated cliffs, with heather on a steep slope above. There is native scrub, including dog rose and honeysuckle, forming an extensive thicket, and a stand of unusually tall bracken. A few Escallonia and Hebe have been planted and are now large bushes. The uncommon sheep's-bit scabious grows here. This site has not yet been surveyed for nesting birds. Linnet is present in the breeding season.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Upland willow scrub* Upland heath* Maritime cliff and slope*	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Linnet* Sheep's-bit scabious
* Nationally important habitats and species.	

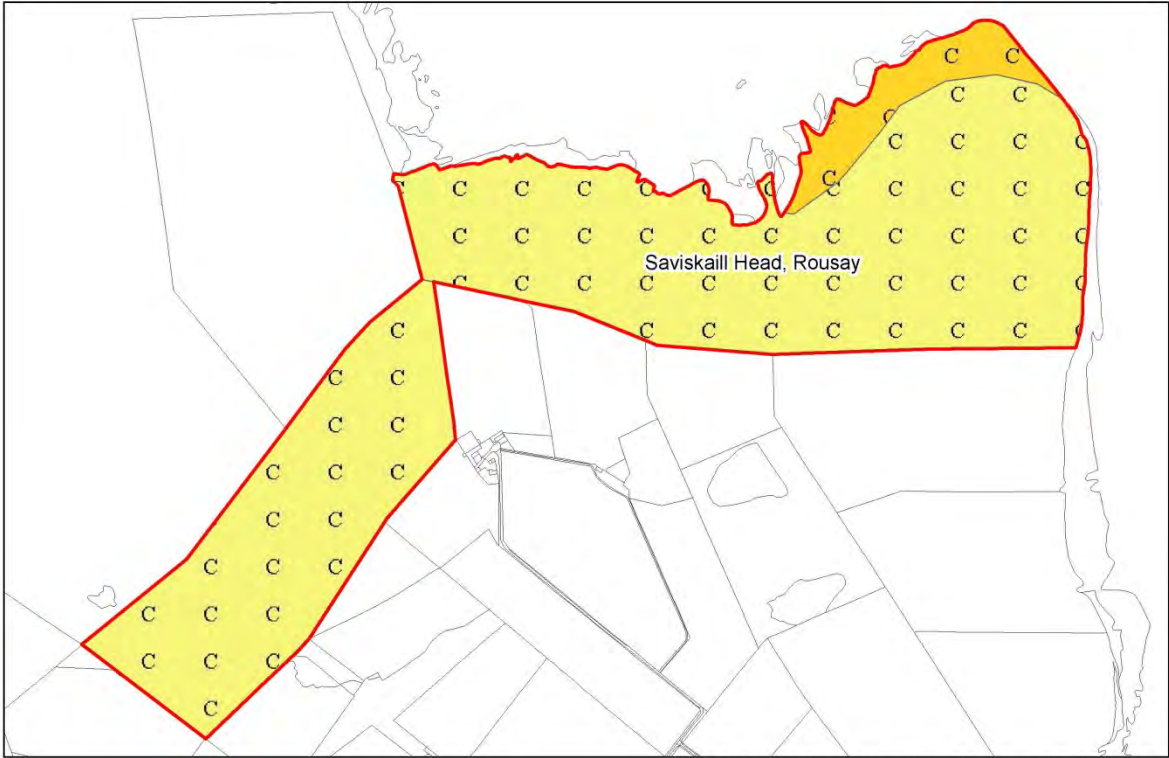


Sandwich, South Ronaldsay (Site ref No: 194)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only 2012



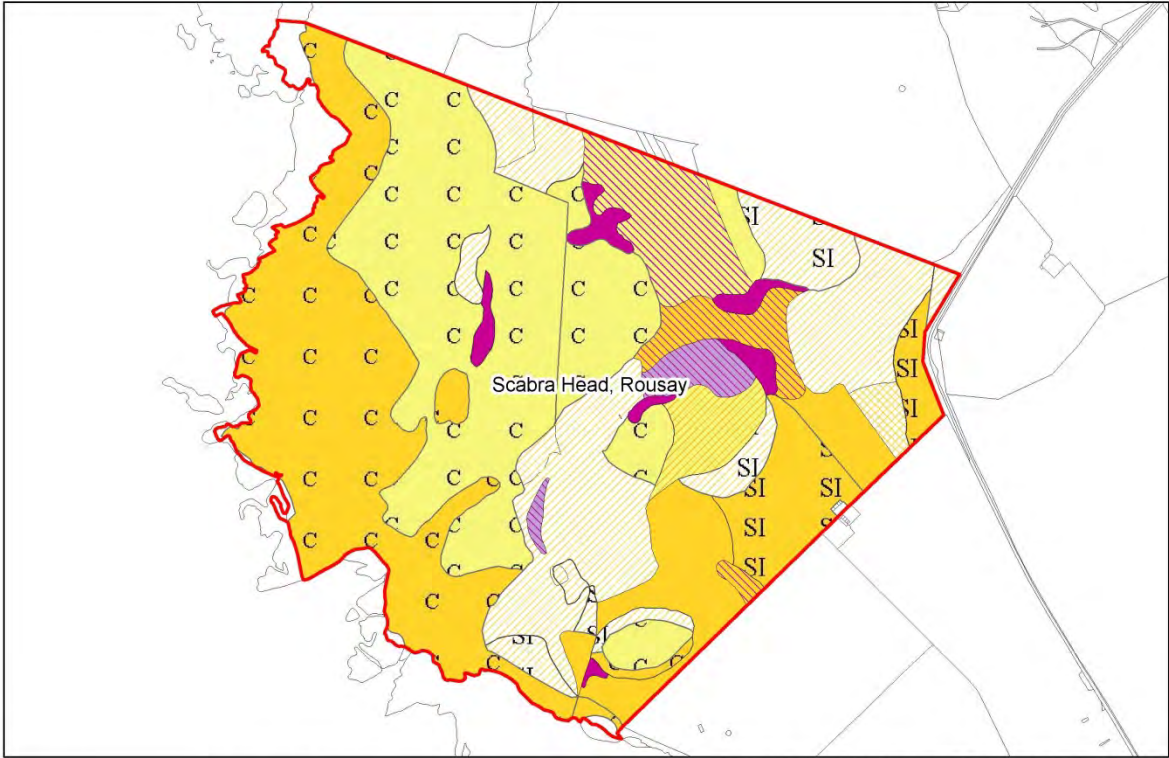
<b>Saviskaill Head.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Rousay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 53 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 195.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>A large area of coastal heath and grassland along the north coast of Rousay from Saviskaill Head to Brings. Saviskaill Head is very exposed to sea spray off open ocean to the northwest, and is mainly very short, sheep-grazed coastal grassland, with characteristic plants such spring squill, sea pinks and sea plantain. The slightly less exposed section west of Saviskaill Head has a narrower band of coastal grassland nearest the shore backed by coastal heath that is herb-rich, especially in the vicinity of springs, where plants include butterwort, bog asphodel and grass of Parnassus.</p> <p>The area has not been surveyed for nesting birds, but arctic skua, skylark, meadow pipit, wheatear, gulls, and waders including curlew, snipe and lapwing have been noted as present in the breeding season.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*</p> <p>Maritime heath</p> <p>Maritime grassland</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Gulls</p> <p>Arctic skua*</p> <p>Moss carder bee*</p> <p>Limestone bedstraw</p>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Saviskail Head, Rousay (Site ref No: 195)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

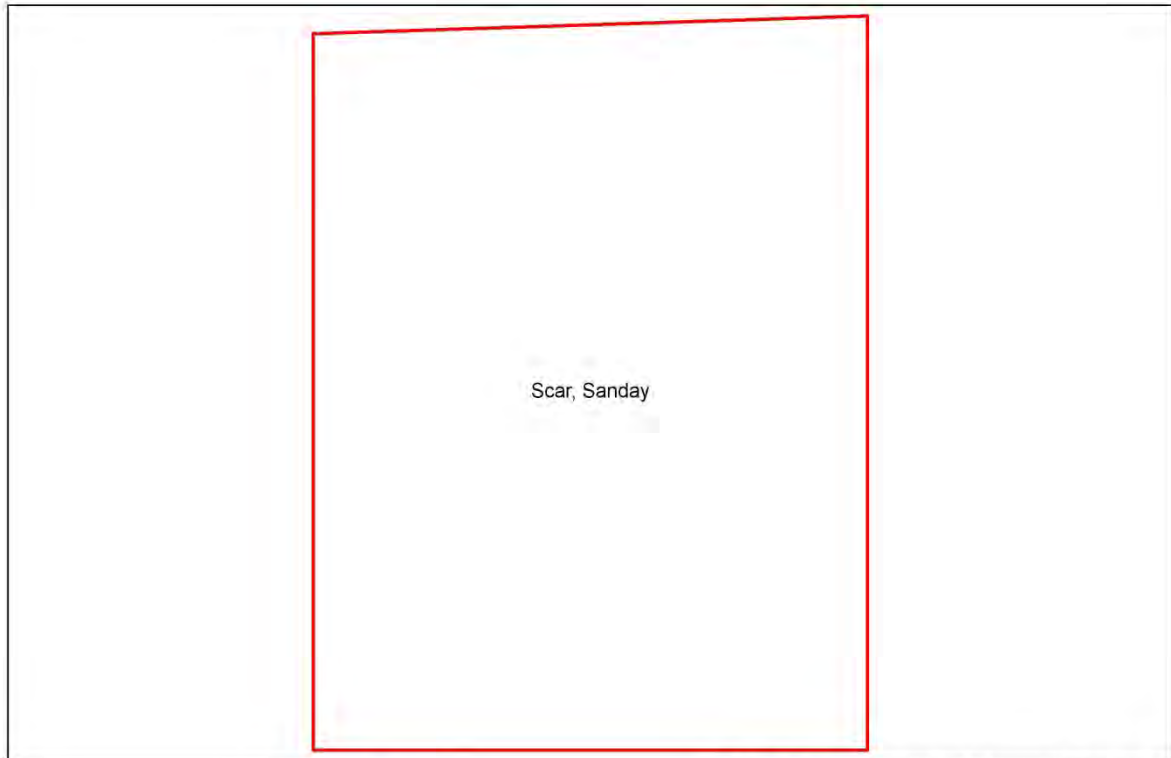
<b>Scabra Head.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Rousay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 67 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 196.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>Situated to the south of the Rousay SSSI and SPA, this area, locally known as Inner Quendal, mainly comprises very exposed, wind-clipped coastal heath and grassland on its western, coastal, side, and semi-natural grassland on its eastern, inland, side. A valley and small watercourse running through the centre of the site forms a divide between these major habitat types. Along it are small areas of marsh.</p> <p>The coastal grassland has a very short sward, with abundant sea pink, spring squill, eyebrights and grass-of-Parnassus. The coastal heathland is also herb-rich. The inland grassland is on areas partly improved by crofting and earlier agriculture, now reverted since clearance in the 19th Century. The steeper slopes, descending in a series of natural terraces formed from the underlying flagstones, have many small plants adapted to the lime-rich conditions, such as thyme and limestone bedstraw. The wetlands also have a variety of plants, including ragged robin, marsh marigold and bogbean. Areas round springs are especially rich in plants, such as orchids, butterwort and sedges.</p> <p>The site is important for its archaeology. It has several prehistoric cairns, a burnt mound, many earthworks and the remains of croft houses and enclosures; unusually, there has been little change or disturbance in the last 150 years.</p> <p>The area has not been surveyed for nesting birds, but arctic skua, skylark, meadow pipit, wheatear, and waders including curlew, snipe, redshank and lapwing have been noted as present in the breeding season.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*</p> <p>Maritime heath</p> <p>Maritime grassland</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Species-rich heath</p> <p>Upland calcareous grassland*</p> <p>Lowland fens*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Arctic skua*</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Moss carder bee*</p> <p>Limestone bedstraw</p> <p>Eyebright <i>Euphrasia foulaensis</i> x <i>marshallii</i></p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Scabra Head, Rousay (Site ref No: 196)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

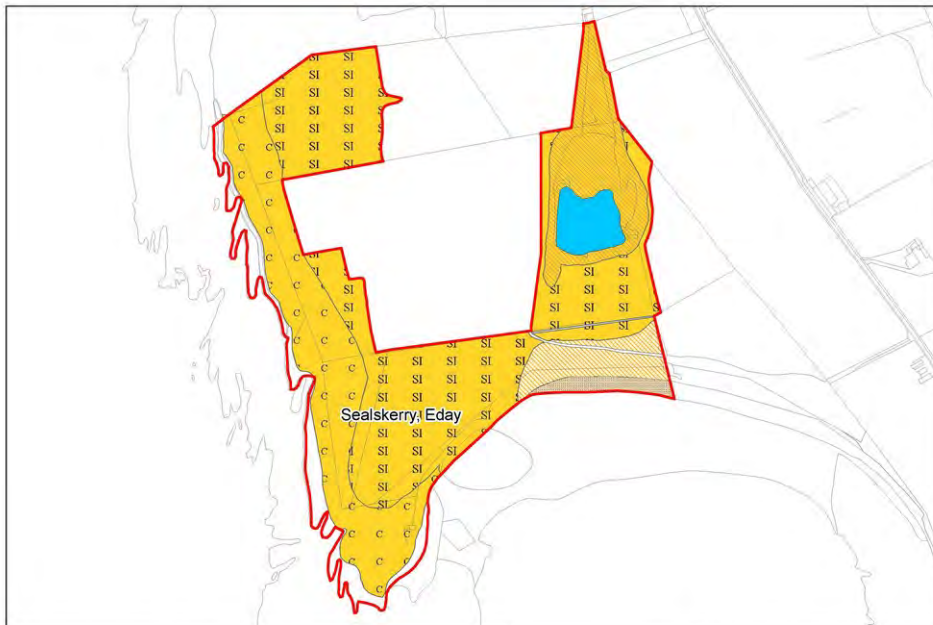
<b>Scar Erratic.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sanday.
<b>Area:</b> N/A.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 197.
<b>Site Description:</b> A large boulder of gneiss, considered to be a glacial erratic, is located in a field near Scar and is considered to be of foreign origin.	



Scar, Sanday (Site ref No: 197)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

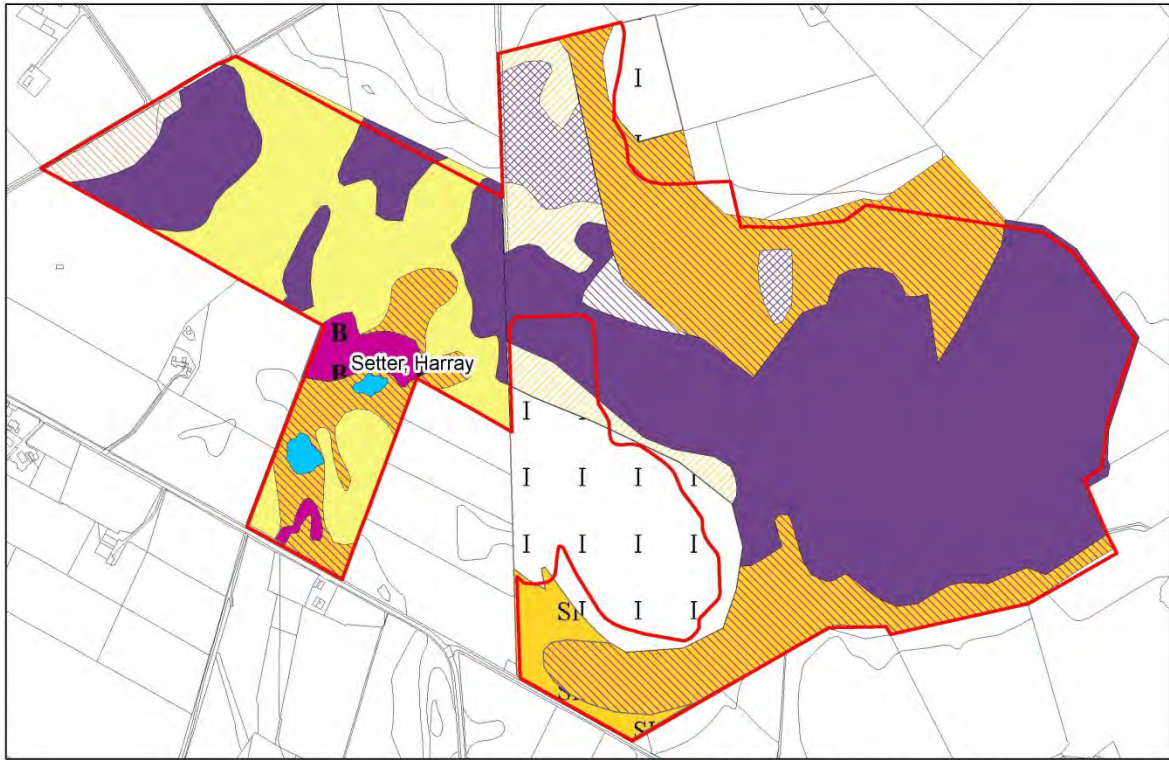
<b>Sealskerry.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Eday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 10 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 198.
<p><b>Site Description:</b></p> <p>The site comprises Sealskerry Loch with adjacent marshy grassland, with coastal grassland along an exposed, west-facing shore. Vegetation around the loch edge mainly consists of yellow iris and rushes. North of the loch there is a small plantation of non-native willows, growing to a height of 3 m.</p> <p>The site is an important one for breeding waders, especially redshank, with oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe and curlew. Ducks also nest here, including wigeon and mallard. There is a small common gull colony. Smaller birds breeding here include skylark, meadow pipit and pied wagtail.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b></p> <p>Eutrophic standing water*</p> <p>Maritime grassland</p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b></p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Wigeon</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Otter*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Sealskerry, Eday (Site ref No: 198)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021921. For reference purposes only. 2016

<b>Setter.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Harray.
<b>Area:</b> c. 66 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 199.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This large site is mainly peatland, with a variety of habitats and vegetation. These include the deep peat bog drained by the Dyke of Setter; heather moorland on shallower peat; and marshes and patches of native willow scrub. Dominant plants of the bog are heather and bog cotton, with others including bog asphodel, lichens and sphagnum moss. There are many small pools, and their characteristic plants include bogbean and bladderwort (a carnivorous species). Marshy grassland on the fringes of the bog is dominated by plants such as meadowsweet, rushes and sedges. Variety of plant life increases where springs create more lime-rich conditions: lesser tussock-sedge, which is nationally uncommon, grows here. Finally, the area of scrub has several native willow species and is one of the largest in mainland Orkney.</p> <p>A variety of waders nest on the site in good numbers, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. There is a large colony of common gulls and a smaller one of black-headed gulls. Smaller birds nesting here include skylark, meadow pipit, songthrush and reed bunting. Hen harrier and short-eared owl hunt over the area.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Lowland fens*</p> <p>Wet woodlands*</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Basin bog</p> <p>Burns and canalised burns</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Reed bunting*</p> <p>Songthrush*</p> <p>Otter*</p> <p>Large heath butterfly*</p> <p>Black darter dragonfly</p> <p>Lesser tussock-sedge*</p> <p>Greater tussock-sedge</p> <p>Grey willow</p> <p>Tea-leaved willow</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	

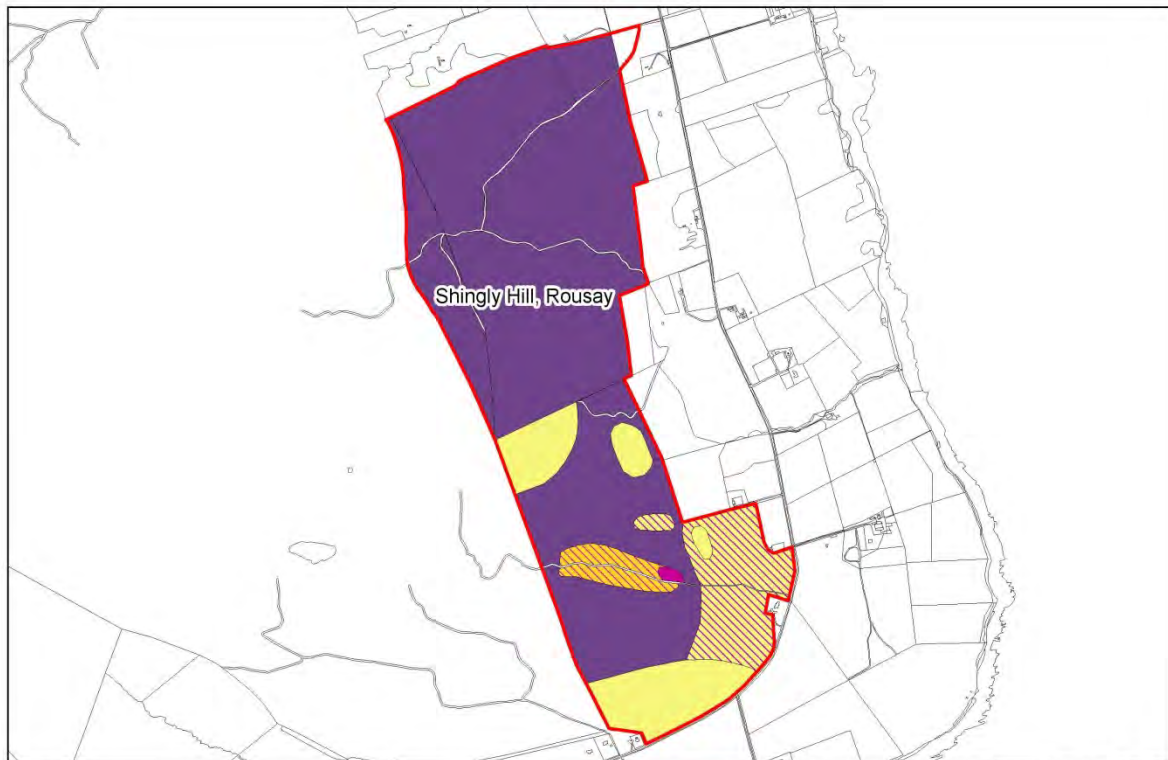


Setter, Harray (Site ref No: 199)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012



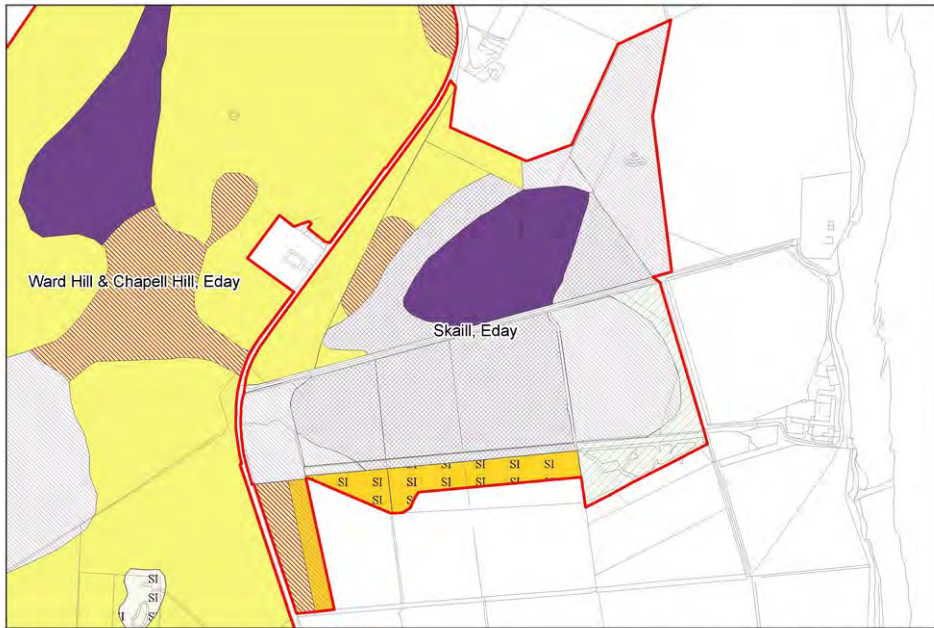
<b>Shingly Hill.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Rousay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 132 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 200.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  This large area of hill next to the Rousay SSSI largely comprises blanket bog on deep peat, dominated by bog cotton and heather, with bog asphodel and sphagnum moss. There is also drier moorland on thinner peat, where the heather is mixed with bell heather, grasses and various mosses.</p> <p>Golden plover nest on this site, and colonies of gulls. Birds of prey, including hen harrier and short-eared owl, hunt over the site.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b>  Blanket bog*  Upland heath*</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b>  Golden plover*  Hunting hen harrier* and short-eared owl*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Shingly Hill, Rousay (Site ref No: 200)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only 2012

<b>Skail.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Eday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 19 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 201.
<p><b>Site Description:</b></p> <p>An area mainly of deep peat that has been drained and cut. Nevertheless the central part of the bog, to the north of the public road, remains very wet and there is abundant peat-forming sphagnum moss. Willows, mainly of species not native to Orkney but including some Orkney natives, have been planted and grow to height of 2-4 m around the south-eastern end. Gorse grows along the roadside. The land slopes upwards to the north and here there is dry heather moorland, on peat overlying sand. This site is the only place where bog myrtle is known to occur in Orkney.</p> <p>Waders breed on the site, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. There is a colony of common gulls. A variety of small breeding birds are also present including skylark, wren, linnet, twite, stonechat, meadow pipit and song thrush.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b></p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Basin bog</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b></p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Stonechat</p> <p>Twite*</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Linnet*</p> <p>Songthrush*</p> <p>Bog myrtle</p> <p>Otter*</p>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Skail, Eday (Site ref No: 201)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction prohibited. Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Ordnance Survey Licence 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2016

<b>South East Coast.</b>	<b>Location:</b> South Ronaldsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 90 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 202.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This is a large and very varied site, including Liddel Loch, Sounds Loch and an extensive area of coastline from Banks Head northwards nearly as far as Windwick Bay.</p> <p>Liddel Loch is shallow and bordered by tall vegetation with abundant meadowsweet and reed canary-grass. The coastal edge between loch and shore has coastal grassland and an ayre of shingle and boulders. The attractive blue oysterplant grows on the stony shore.</p> <p>Eastwards from Liddel Loch to the Sounds Loch is an area of coastal heath and grassland close to the cliffs, heath with abundant lichens further inland, and marsh close to the shallow open water of the lochs. A good variety of plants can be found here, including the rare frog orchid. Plant life is especially varied where springs locally create more lime-rich conditions.</p> <p>The North Taing coastline has a coastal fringe of coastal heath and grass, with plants such as spring squill and sea plantain. The abundant wild flowers along the coast support great yellow bumblebee and moss carder bee.</p> <p>Liddel Loch and Sounds Loch support good populations of waders – oystercatcher, curlew, lapwing, snipe, redshank and occasional ringed plover nest here. A pair of mute swans and wildfowl, including shoveler, wigeon, teal, eider and coot, also nest, and Liddel Loch is particularly good for wintering ducks.</p> <p>Small numbers of gulls, Arctic terns, Arctic and great skuas also breed in this area. Smaller birds nesting include skylark, linnet, reed bunting, wheatear and meadow pipit.</p> <p>Grey seals breed along the coastline.</p> <p>Coastal features here have also been recognised for their geomorphological (the shape and evolution of landforms) interest and importance.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Maritime heath</p> <p>Lichen heath</p> <p>Crowberry heath</p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*</p> <p>Maritime grassland</p> <p>Lowland fens*</p> <p>Eutrophic standing waters*</p> <p>Mesotrophic lakes*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Arctic tern*</p> <p>Arctic skua*</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Linnet*</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Reed bunting*</p> <p>Wintering ducks</p> <p>Black darter dragonfly</p> <p>Great yellow bumblebee*</p>

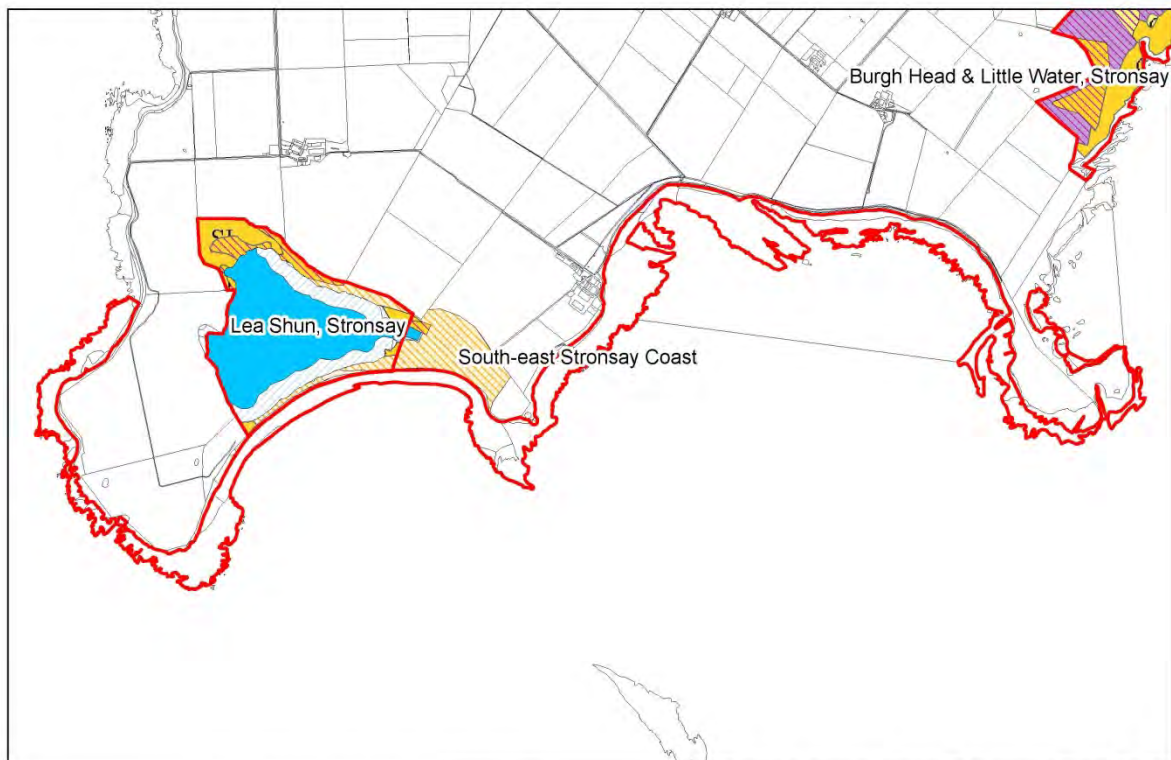
	Moss carder bee* Grey seal* Oysterplant* Frog orchid* Long-bracted sedge
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



South East Coast, South Ronaldsay (Site ref No: 203)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

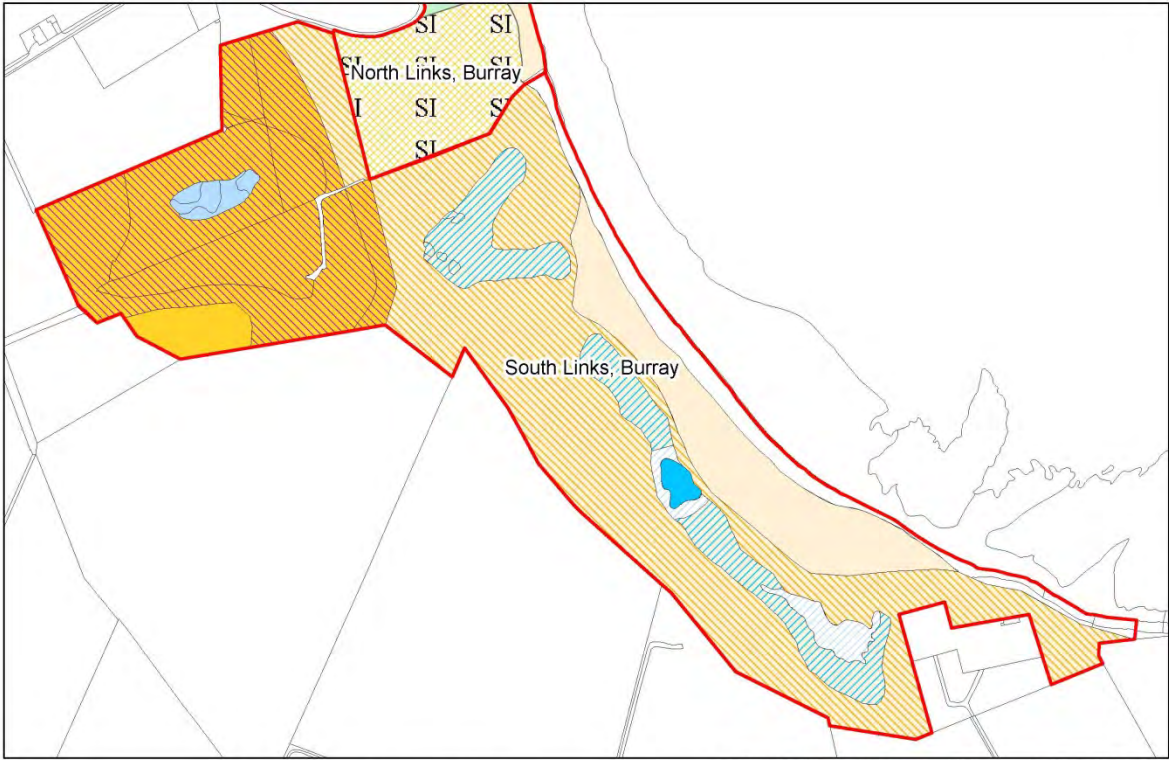
<b>South-east Stronsay Coast.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Stronsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 63 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 203.
<b>Site Description:</b> This site comprises the rocky shore and occasional more sheltered sandy beach along the south-east coast of Stronsay. It is an important feeding area for wintering waders, including curlew, turnstone, sanderling and purple sandpiper. Piles of rotting kelp provide an abundant food source for these birds and there is little to disturb them or the seals hauled out on the taings and skerries. Oysterplant, a nationally uncommon species, is known to grow in at least one place here.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Strandline	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Wintering waders* Otter* Oysterplant*
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



South-east Stronsay Coast (Site ref No: 202)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>South Links.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Burray..
<b>Area:</b> c. 20 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 204.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>An area of coastal dunes and dune grassland on the east side of Burray, with a wetland basin on its western side. The northern part of the dunes has been quarried for sand in the recent past. Original and semi-restored dune grassland behind the dune ridge is rich in wildflowers, including bird's-foot trefoil and northern marsh orchid in abundance, also the less common early marsh orchid. Northern yellow-cress and pink water speedwell together with other aquatic plants grow in and around seasonal pools in hollows behind the dunes. Great yellow bumblebees and moss carder bees are quite common, feeding on the abundant flowers including bird's-foot trefoil and white clover in the short, sandy turf. Together with the neighbouring North Links this is the only place in Orkney with dark green fritillary butterflies.</p> <p>Waders and ducks including curlew, oystercatcher, redshank, lapwing, snipe wigeon and teal all nest in the wet part of the site.</p> <p>Smaller birds including meadow pipit, wheatear, twite and skylark nest in the area.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Coastal sand dunes*</p> <p>Links</p> <p>Lowland meadows*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Dark green fritillary</p> <p>Great yellow bumblebee*</p> <p>Heath carder bee*</p> <p>Northern yellow-cress*</p> <p>Pink water speedwell</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Wigeon</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Twite*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	

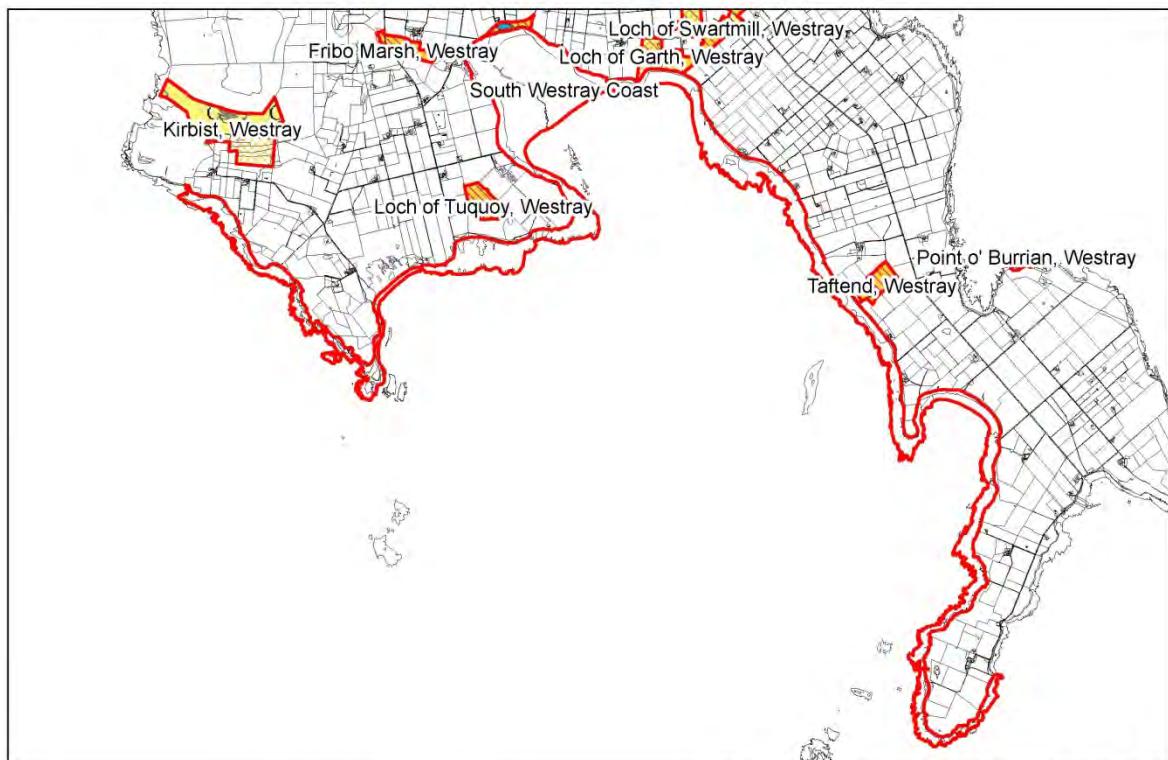


South Links, Burray (Site ref No: 204)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only, 2012



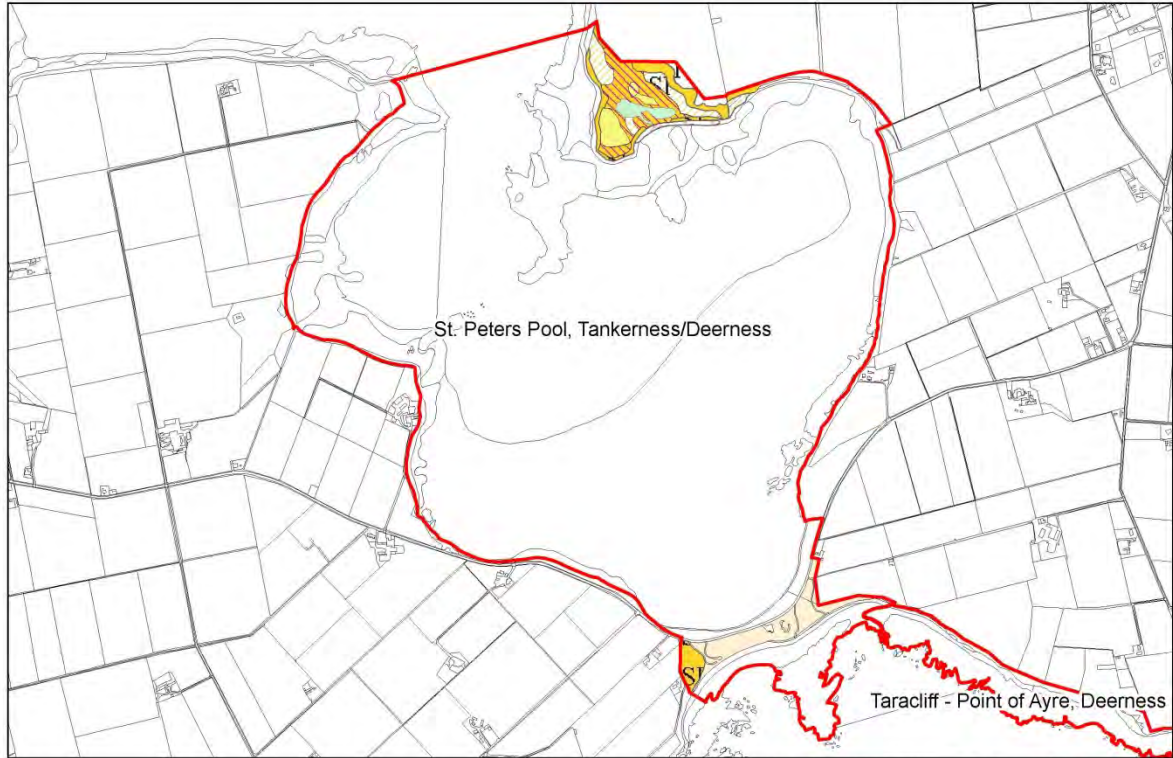
<b>South Westray Coast.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Westray.
<b>Area:</b> c. 314 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 205.
<b>Site Description:</b> This site comprises the rocky shore, sandy beaches, tidal sand and mudflats along the southwest coast of Westray. It is an important feeding area for wintering waders, including curlew, turnstone, sanderling and purple sandpiper. Piles of rotting kelp provide an abundant food source for these birds and there is little to disturb them or the seals hauled out on the taings and skerries. Oysterplant, a nationally uncommon species, is known to grow in one place here.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Intertidal mud flats* Strandline	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Wintering waders* Otter* Oysterplant*
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



South Westray Coast (Site ref No: 205)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

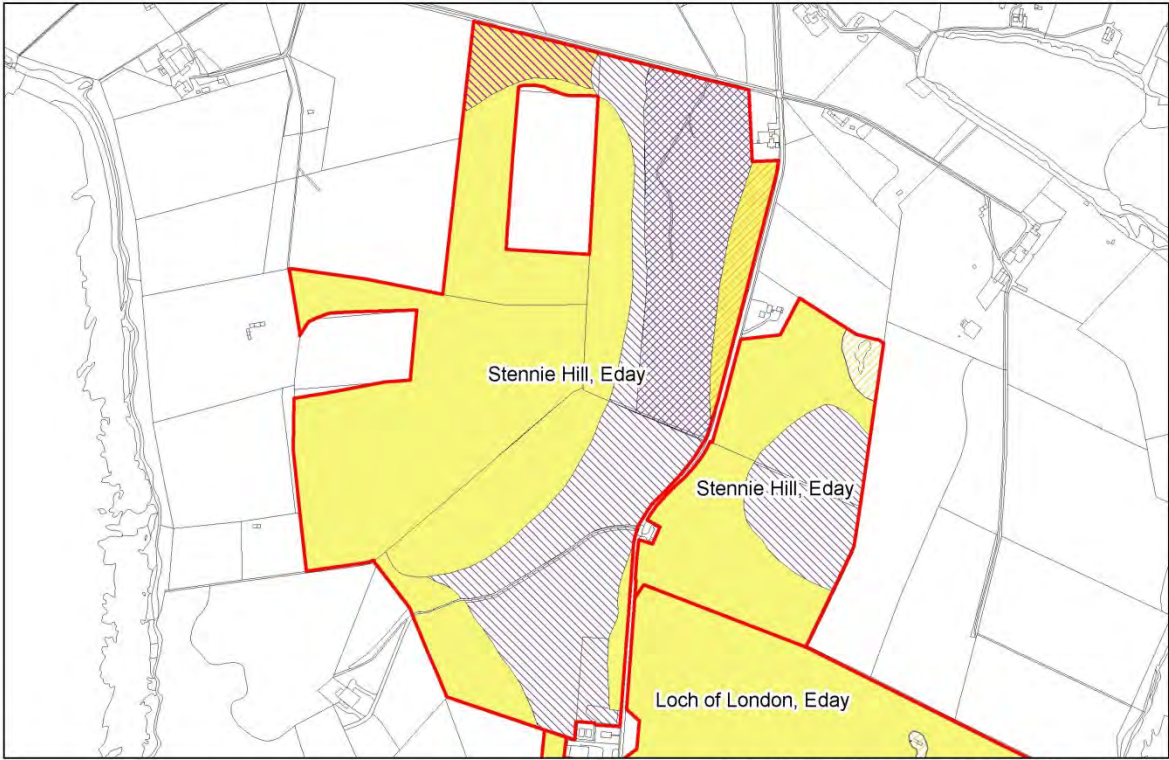
<b>St Peter's Pool.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Tankerness/Deerness..
<b>Area:</b> c. 189 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 206.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This site is comprised of three areas: Braebuster Ness, the dunes and beach at Dingieshowe and the inter-tidal mudflats of St Peter's Pool.</p> <p>Braebuster Ness has a mixture of marsh, grassland and saltmarsh also including a small brackish loch with tidal channel. There is a small area of heather, mixed with other plants including bell heather and creeping willow. Along the shore in the shelter of the Ness are scattered saltmarsh plants that can tolerate immersion in seawater. Dingieshowe has extensive sand dunes, which are largely intact and have good cover of marram and lyme grass.</p> <p>The site supports a variety of breeding waders including oystercatcher, ringed plover, curlew, redshank, lapwing and snipe. The mud flats of St Peter's Pool are important for wintering waders.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Lowland dry acid grassland*</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Purple moorgrass and rush pasture*</p> <p>Coastal sand dunes*</p> <p>Inter-tidal mud flats*</p> <p>Coastal saltmarsh*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Wintering waders</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Grey willow</p> <p>Lesser meadow-rue</p>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



St. Peters Pool, Tankerness/Deerness (Site ref No: 206)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

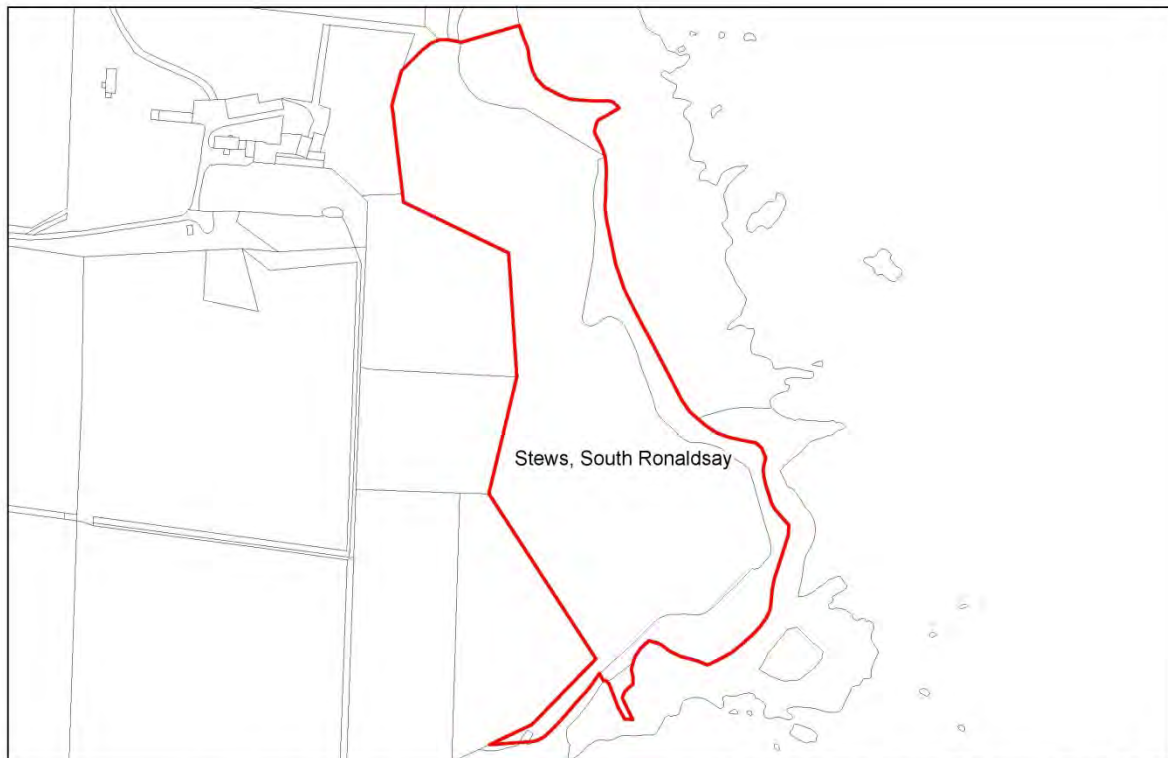
<b>Stennie Hill.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Eday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 50 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 207.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This site is mainly dry heather moorland on thin peat and blanket bog that has been cut for peat and dried out, except on the eastern side of Stennie hill where the land drops steeply into a small valley with deeper peat and flooded cuttings. The dry moorland is dominated by heather; while the wetter areas have bog cotton, bog asphodel and sphagnum moss. The site also includes part of Mill Hill on the east side of the public road, also with dry moorland and blanket bog.</p> <p>A variety of waders nest on the site, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew, redshank and the occasional golden plover. Skylark, meadow pipit, wren and twite also breed here.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Blanket bog*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Golden plover*</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Twite*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



**Stennie Hill, Eday (Site ref No: 207)**

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

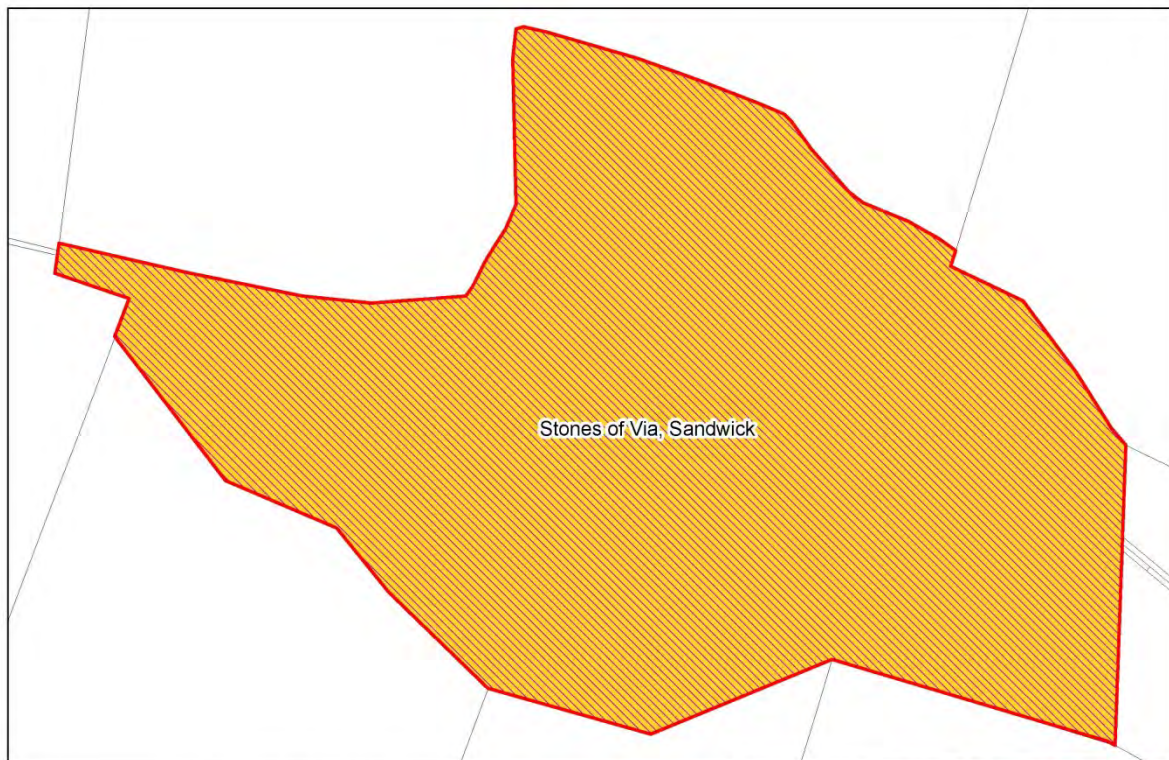
<b>Stews.</b>	<b>Location:</b> South Ronaldsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 2.5 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 208.
<b>Site Description:</b>	
<p>An area of coast with high cliffs and very steep slopes clothed in grassland. Much of the grassland is moderately tall, with plants such as false oat-grass, red campion, wild angelica and vetches. Other places more exposed to sea spray have shorter grass, with plants such as thrift and sea plantain.</p> <p>Grey seal breed on the shore at the base of the cliffs.</p> <p>The area has not been surveyed for birds, but the habitats can be expected to attract nesting birds like skylark and meadow pipit.</p>	
<b>Special Habitats:</b>	<b>Special Wildlife:</b>
Maritime cliff and slope* Maritime grassland	Grey seal*
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Stews, South Ronaldsay (Site ref No: 208)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

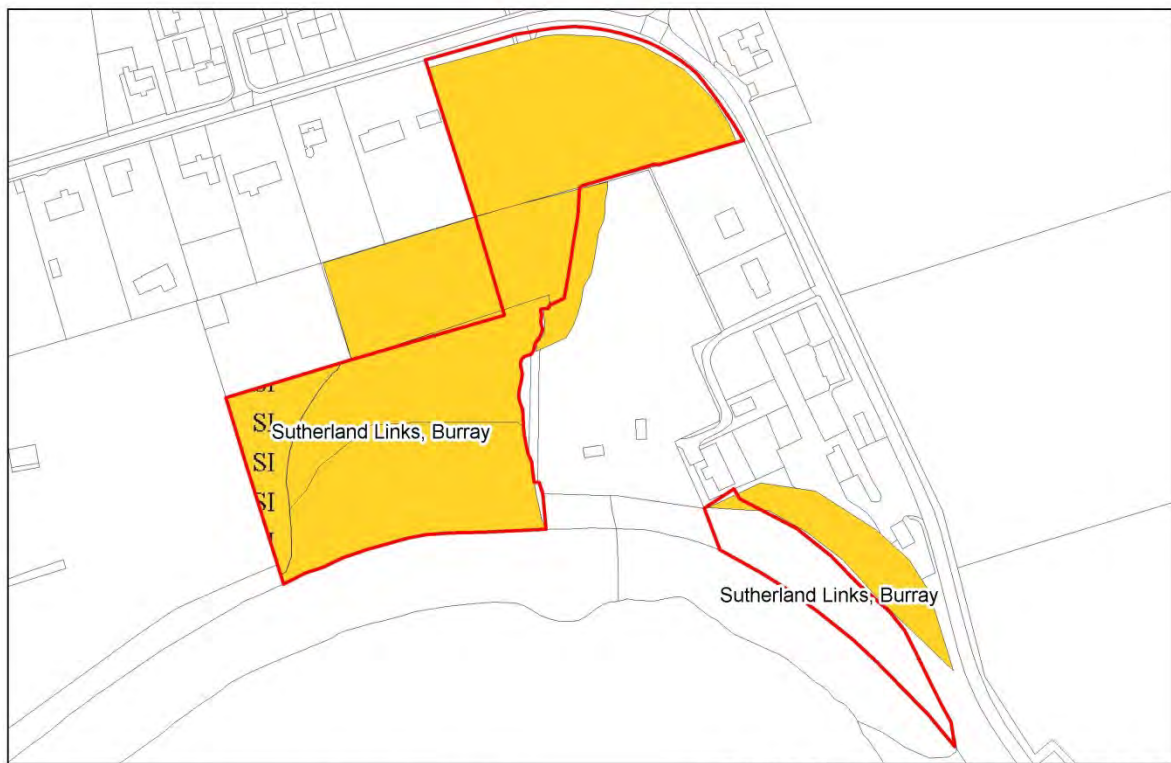
<b>Stones of Via.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sandwick.
<b>Area:</b> c. 4.5 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 209.
<b>Site Description:</b> A small area of marsh and marshy grassland dominated by stands of yellow iris, supporting an unusually large number of breeding waders: these include oystercatcher, lapwing, curlew, snipe and redshank. There are a few breeding common and black-headed gulls, and smaller birds including meadow pipit and wheatear.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Eutrophic standing waters*	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Lapwing* Curlew* Redshank Skylark*
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Stones of Via, Sandwick (Site ref No: 209)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only 2012

<b>Sutherland Links.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Burray.
<b>Area:</b> c. 2.5 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 210
<b>Site Description:</b> The Sutherland Links site has sandy links vegetation and a small patch of natural meadow between the beach and steep rocks behind. The flower-rich grassland is especially important for great yellow bumblebees, which particularly like the abundant knapweed that grows here. A small burn, mainly canalised, runs through the site and is used by otters.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Lowland meadow* Links Burns and canalised burns	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Great yellow bumblebee* Moss carder bee* Otter*
* Nationally important habitats and species.	

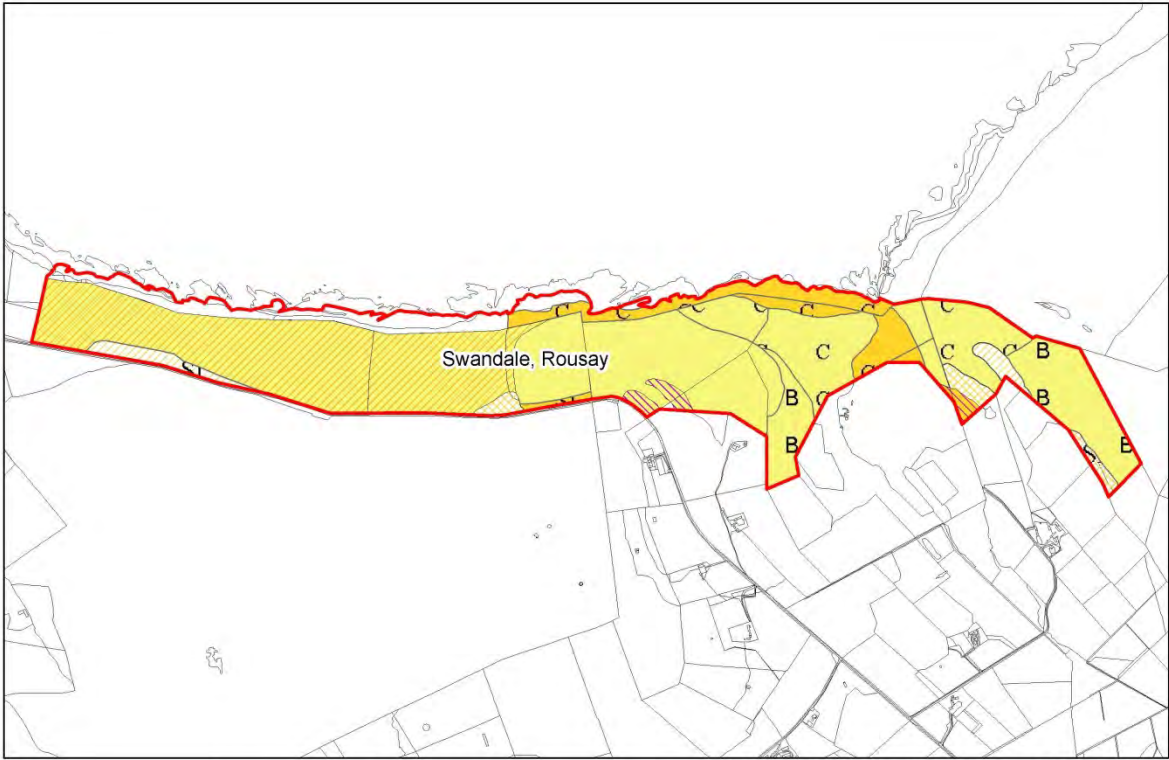


Sutherland Links, Burray (Site ref No: 210)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012



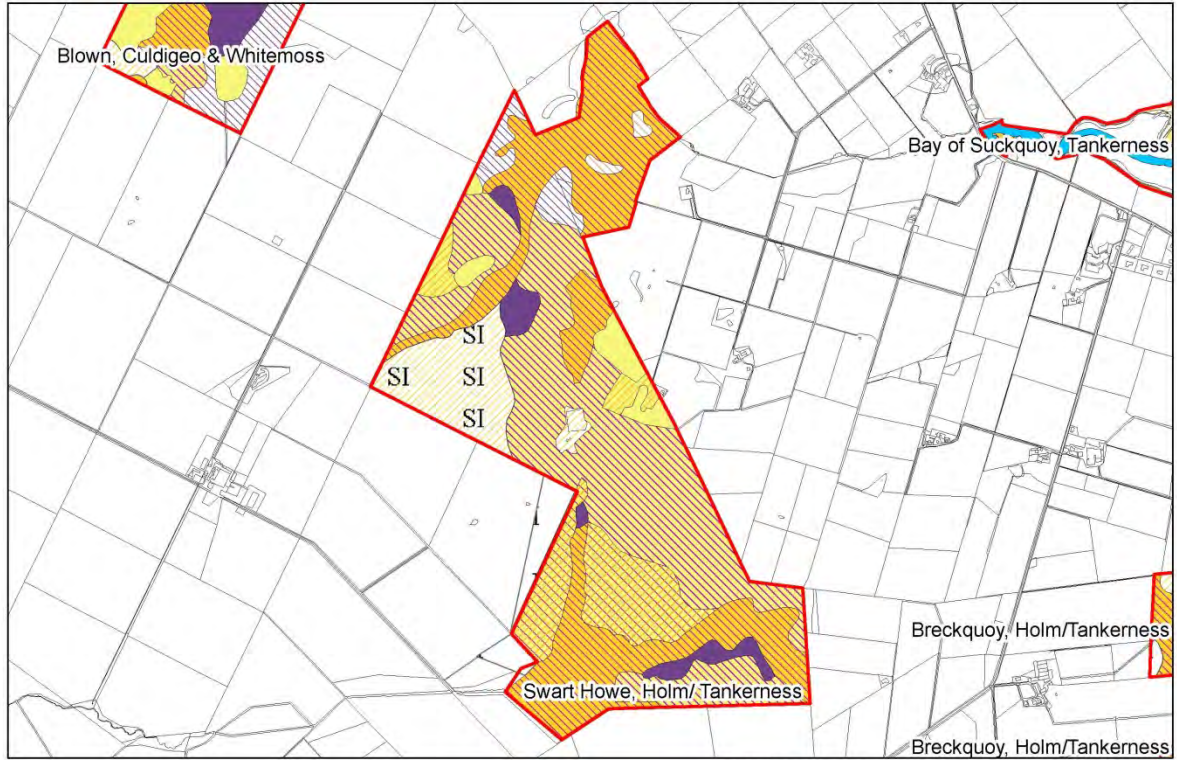
<b>Swandale.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Rousay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 93 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 211.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>An area of coastal heath and coastal grassland along Saviskaill Bay. The land is mainly steeply sloping and is dry except for springs. Exposure to sea spray and underlying lime-rich sandstones strongly influence the vegetation. At the eastern end, near Swandale and the Castle of Garsniegeo, exposure is greatest and there is very short, herb- and sedge-rich coastal grassland, with plants such as spring squill, sea plantain and sea pink merging into a short carpet of dwarf shrubs. Heathland reaches further inland towards Swartafield and the farm of Bigland. Here the influence of sea spray is less but due to the underlying rock the heath, grassland and spring-fed marshes are unusually herb-rich. Thyme, grass-of-Parnassus and limestone bedstraw are among the many plants present. At the western end of the site, lying in a strip along the coast more than 1 km long, is an area of mixed heather and grassland that has been quite heavily grazed in the past but now appears to be managed with lighter grazing.</p> <p>The area has not been thoroughly surveyed for nesting birds, but arctic skua, skylark, meadow pipit, wheatear and waders including curlew, snipe, redshank and lapwing have been noted as present in the breeding season.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*</p> <p>Maritime heath</p> <p>Maritime grassland</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Species-rich heath</p> <p>Lowland fens*</p> <p>Lowland calcareous grassland*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Arctic skua*</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Moss carder bee*</p> <p>Limestone bedstraw</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Swandale, Rousay (Site ref No: 211)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

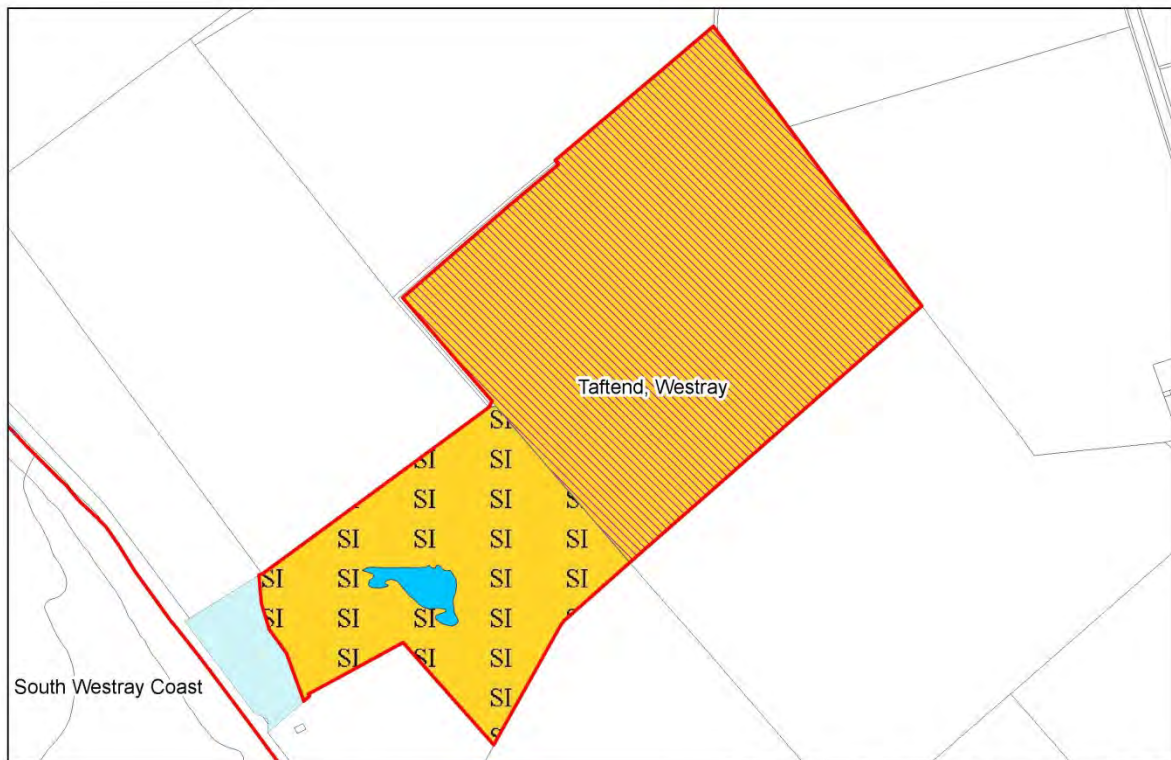
<b>Swart Howe.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Holm/Tankerness.
<b>Area:</b> c. 114 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 212
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This is mainly a moorland site, divided in two by a fence. The southern section mainly comprises wet heather moorland in poor condition, with heather suppressed by heavy grazing, and wet acid grassland. The northern section mainly comprises moorland in better condition, some bog vegetation localised on deeper peat, with cotton grass and sphagnum moss, and some marshy grassland. This marshy grassland is quite rich in species, such as ragged robin, wild angelica and marsh marigold. At the northern extremity of the site is a wet basin with marsh and swamp derived from old peat cuttings. At one corner of this is an area with calcium-rich springs and a greater variety of plant species than found elsewhere on the site. These include greater tussock-sedge - believed to be the only site for this in the East Mainland.</p> <p>The site supports a variety of breeding waders in good numbers, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. A range of gulls also nest here with colonies of herring gull, lesser black-backed gull, common gull and black-headed gull. Skylark, meadow pipit and reed bunting also breed on the site.</p> <p>The uncommon large heath butterfly has been recorded here.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*</p> <p>Lowland fens*</p> <p>Upland flushes fens and swamps*</p> <p>Blanket bog*</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Lapwing*</p> <p>Snipe</p> <p>Curlew*</p> <p>Redshank</p> <p>Skylark*</p> <p>Reed bunting*</p> <p>Black headed gull*</p> <p>Herring gull*</p> <p>Lesser black-backed gull</p> <p>Otter*</p> <p>Large Heath butterfly*</p> <p>Haworth's minor (a moth)*</p> <p>Greater tussock-sedge</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Swart Howe, Holm/ Tankerness (Site ref No: 212)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

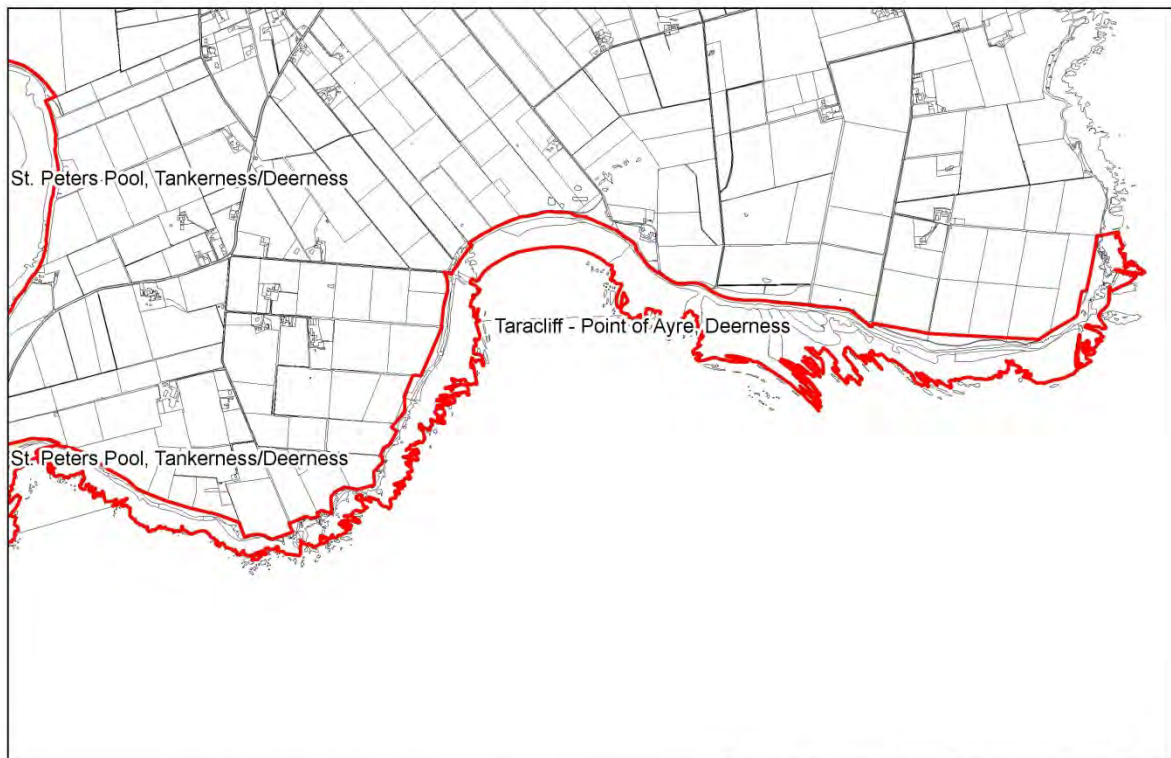
<b>Taftend.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Westray.
<b>Area:</b> c. 7 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 213.
<b>Site Description:</b> A small loch surrounded by semi-improved grassland and an adjacent area of rough, marshy grassland with patches of yellow iris and meadowsweet. A variety of waders breed here, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank, and some common and black-headed gulls. A few ducks also nest on the site – pairs of shelduck, teal, mallard and moorhen have been recorded. Sedge warblers nest in the tall marsh vegetation.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b>	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Curlew* Lapwing* Snipe Redshank
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Taftend, Westray (Site ref No: 213)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

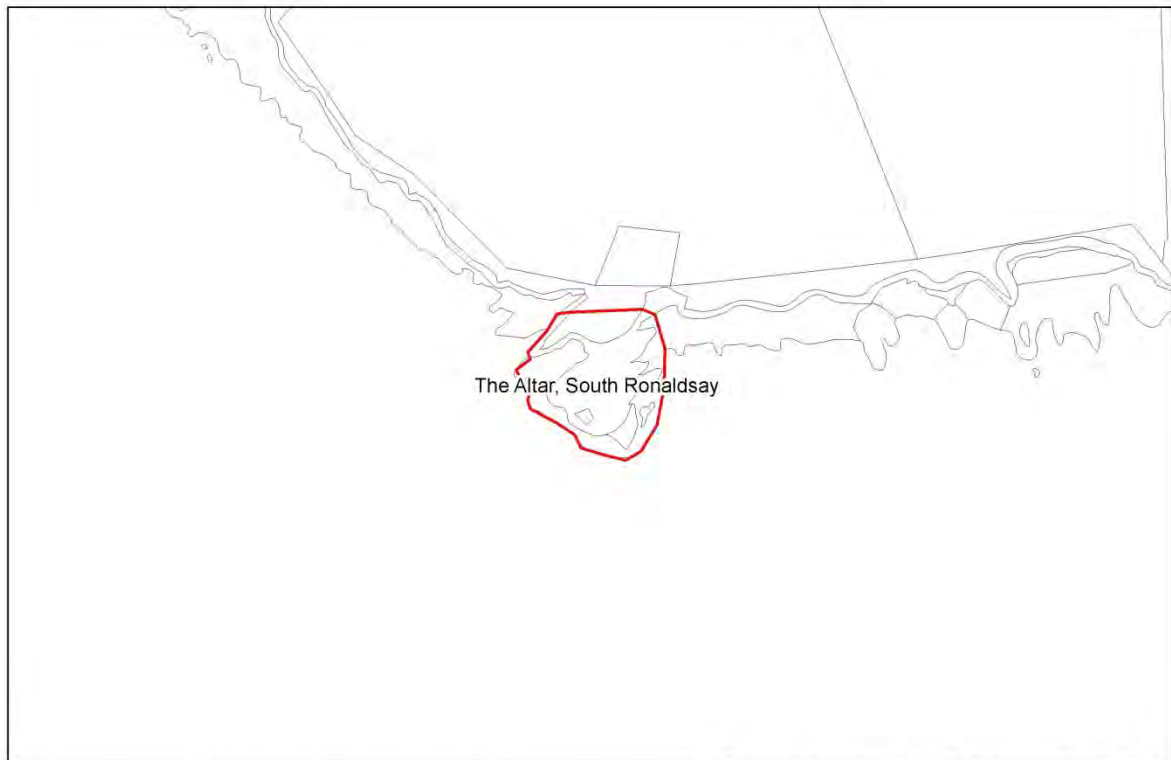
<b>Taracliff – Point of Ayre.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Deerness.
<b>Area:</b> c. 67 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 214.
<p><b>Site Description:</b></p> <p>This site extends from the cliffs to the east of Dingieshowe along to the Point of Ayre. It includes the beach at Newark, which is a good site for the uncommon oysterplant. The cliffs between Dingieshowe and Newark have coastal vegetation such as sea pinks, as well as some small areas of flower-rich heath with heather, crowberry, sea plantain and spring squill.</p> <p>This is an important coastal site for wintering waders, especially purple sandpiper. Coastal features here have also been recognised for their geological interest and importance. The rocky coastline extending from Taracliff Bay to Newark Bay and the headland at the Point of Ayre, are designated as Geological Conservation Review (GCR) sites.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b></p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b></p> <p>Wintering waders including purple sandpiper* Oysterplant*</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Taracliff - Point of Ayre, Deerness (Site ref No: 214)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>The Altar.</b>	<b>Location:</b> South Ronaldsay.
<b>Area:</b> c 0.5 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 215.
<b>Site Description:</b> Harrabrough Head, a small cliffed promontory on the southern side of Herston Head has been eroded at its base along well defined joints to produce three parallel arches. This gives the headland the appearance of standing on legs, hence its name "The Altar". The site clearly demonstrates the influence of jointing on the resultant coastal landforms.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b>	<b>Special Wildlife:</b>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	

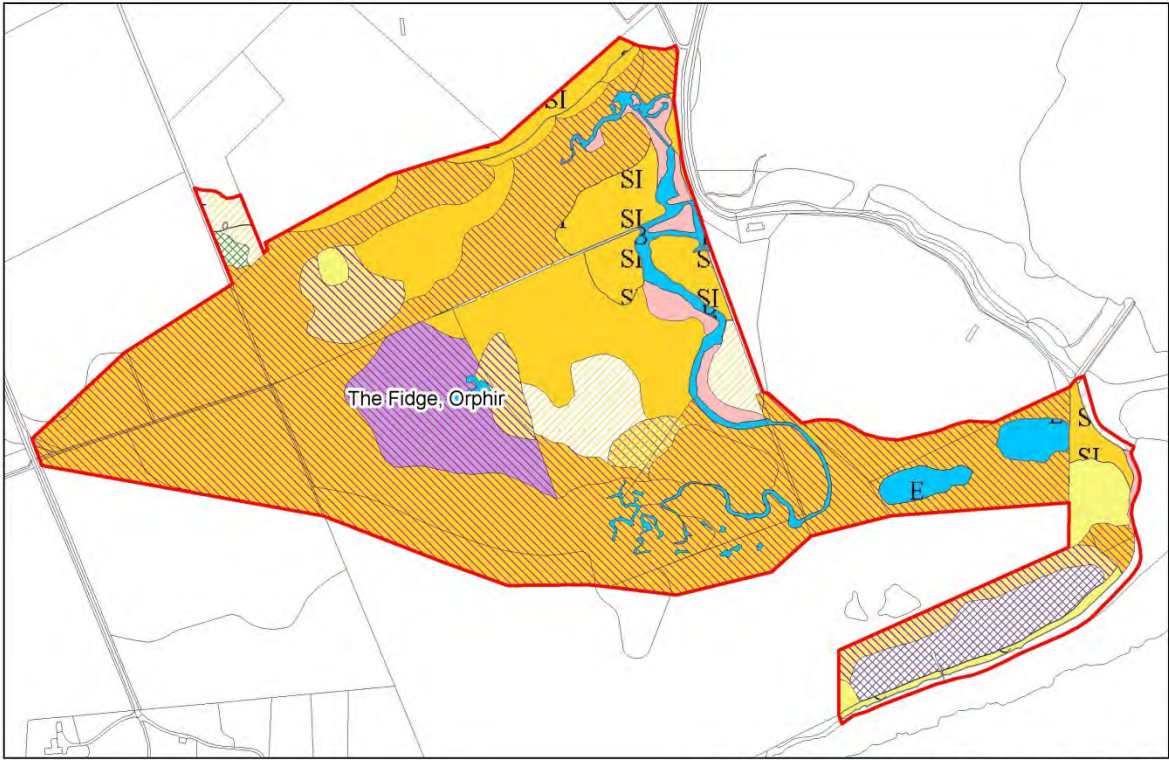


The Altar, South Ronaldsay (Site ref No: 215)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>The Fidge.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Orphir.
<b>Area:</b> c. 39 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 216.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This is a large and complex site with a variety of habitats, centred on the Fidge marsh. Over large parts of the marsh, meadowsweet, rushes and yellow iris are dominant, in varying proportions. Wettest areas have small pools and swamps, with bog cotton and bogbean. In a few places, along the northern edge of the site, the variety of plant life is further enhanced by the influence of lime-rich springs.</p> <p>Parts of the site are drier and support flowery meadows, whilst others have heather and other dwarf shrubs mixed with fine grasses.</p> <p>Also on the northern edge of the site is a patch of gorse, amid flower-rich grassland on dry banks.</p> <p>Tidal channels run through part of the site, creating saltmarsh and draining freshwater from two freshwater pools near the point of Torness.</p> <p>The site also includes some heather moorland to the south-west of Torness.</p> <p>The site is important for breeding waders, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, dunlin, curlew and most especially redshank. There is a large colony of black-headed gulls, and smaller ones of common gulls, arctic terns and sandwich terns. Breeding wildfowl include shelduck, teal, eider, moorhen and coot. Smaller birds nesting here include skylark, meadow pipit, sedge warbler and reed bunting. Short-eared owl hunt over the area.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Lowland meadows*.</p> <p>Lowland calcareous grassland*.</p> <p>Lowland dry acid grassland*.</p> <p>Lowland fens*.</p> <p>Maritime heath.</p> <p>Blanket bog*.</p> <p>Eutrophic standing waters*.</p> <p>Burns and canalised burns.</p> <p>Coastal saltmarsh*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Lapwing*.</p> <p>Curlew*.</p> <p>Snipe.</p> <p>Redshank.</p> <p>Black-headed gull*.</p> <p>Sandwich tern*.</p> <p>Arctic tern*.</p> <p>Skylark*.</p> <p>Sedge warbler.</p> <p>Reed bunting*.</p> <p>Otter*.</p> <p>Moss carder bee*.</p> <p>Silver hair-grass.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	

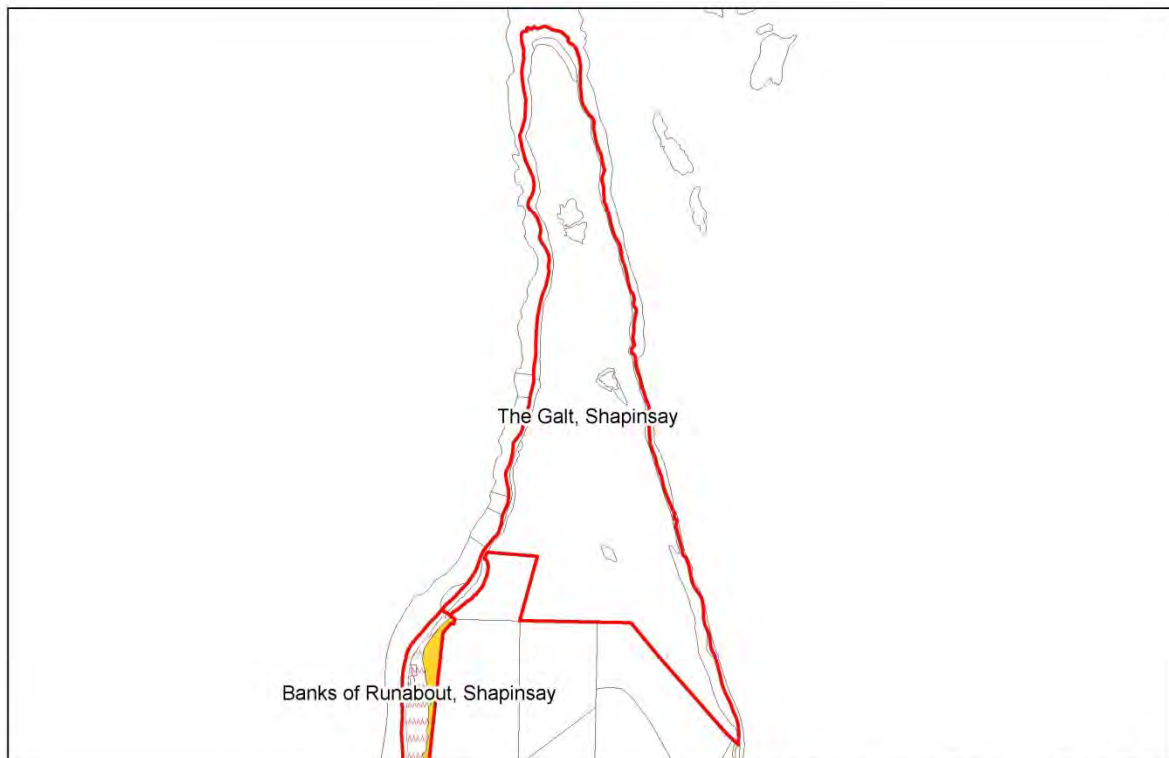




**The Fidge, Orphir (Site ref No: 216)**

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

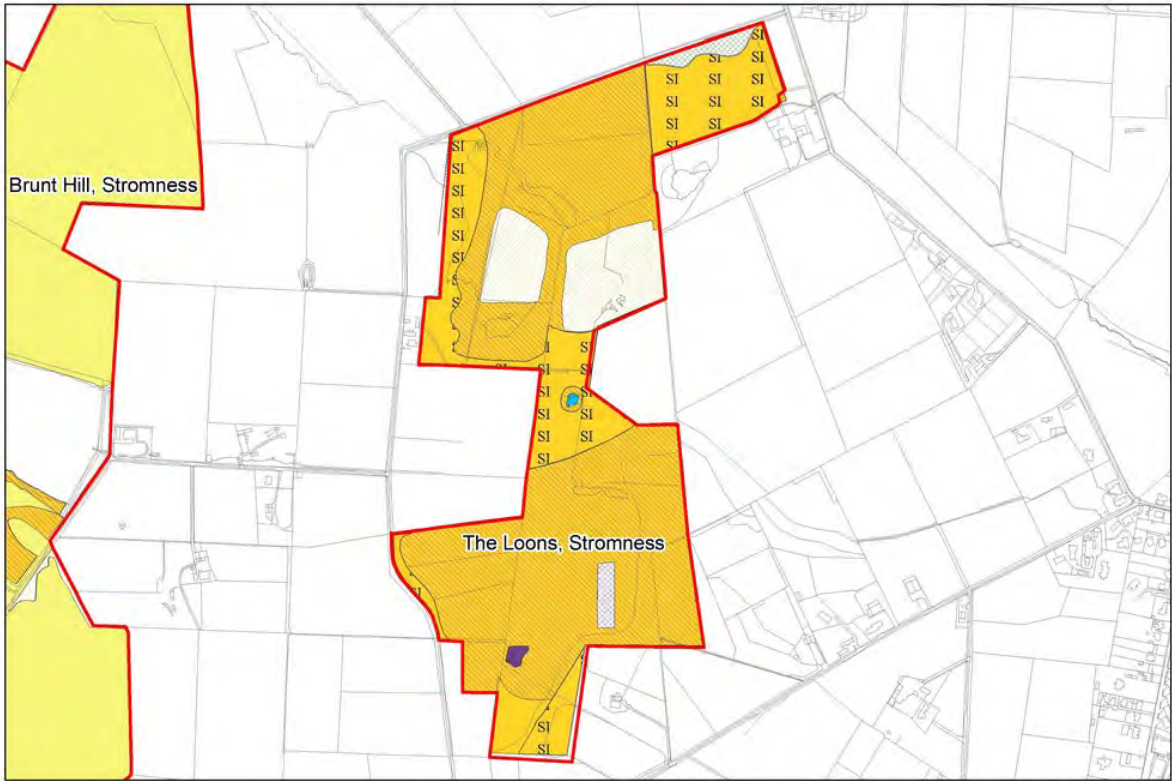
<b>The Galt.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Shapinsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 16 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 217.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  This site mainly comprises coastal heath with a fringe of coastal grassland. There are marshy areas and pools among the heath. The heath is wind-pruned and short, the dwarf shrubs plants mainly comprising heather and crowberry. The marsh is on shallow peat and has many plant species, including bog cotton, sedges and ragged-robin.</p> <p>The area has not been surveyed for nesting birds, but the habitats can be expected to attract nesting waders like curlew, snipe and lapwing, also skylark and meadow pipit.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b>  Upland heath*.  Empetrum heath.  Maritime heath.  Maritime grassland.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b>  Breeding waders*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



The Galt, Shapinsay (Site ref No: 217)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

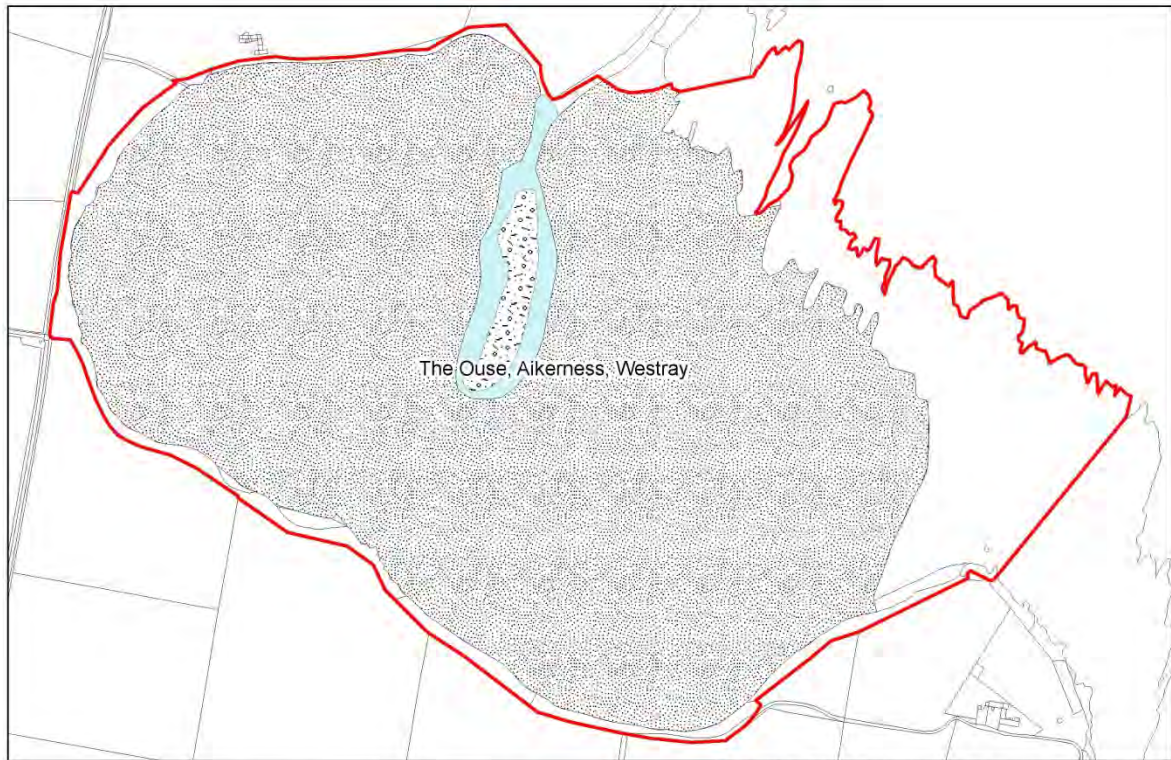
<b>The Loons.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Stromness.
<b>Area:</b> c. 34 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 218.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This large site comprises mainly marsh with several shallow pools and water-filled ditches and some drier semi-natural grassland. The marsh has abundant meadowsweet, yellow iris and rushes. Pools have marginal and floating plants that include bogbean and water mint. Much of the site was formerly cut for peat, and blanket bog vegetation – with heather, bog cotton and sphagnum moss - persists on areas of remaining deep peat. There are also areas of thinner peat supporting a mixture of heather moorland and acid grassland.</p> <p>A variety of waders nest on the site in good numbers, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank, also ducks including teal in smaller numbers. There is a colony of common gulls. Smaller birds nesting here include skylark, meadow pipit, stonechat, sedge warbler and reed bunting.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Lowland fens*.</p> <p>Lowland meadows*.</p> <p>Upland heath*.</p> <p>Basin bog.</p> <p>Burns and canalised burns.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Lapwing*.</p> <p>Curlew*.</p> <p>Redshank.</p> <p>Snipe.</p> <p>Skylark*.</p> <p>Sedge warbler.</p> <p>Reed bunting*.</p>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



**The Loons, Stromness (Site ref No: 218)**

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021921. For reference purposes only. 2016

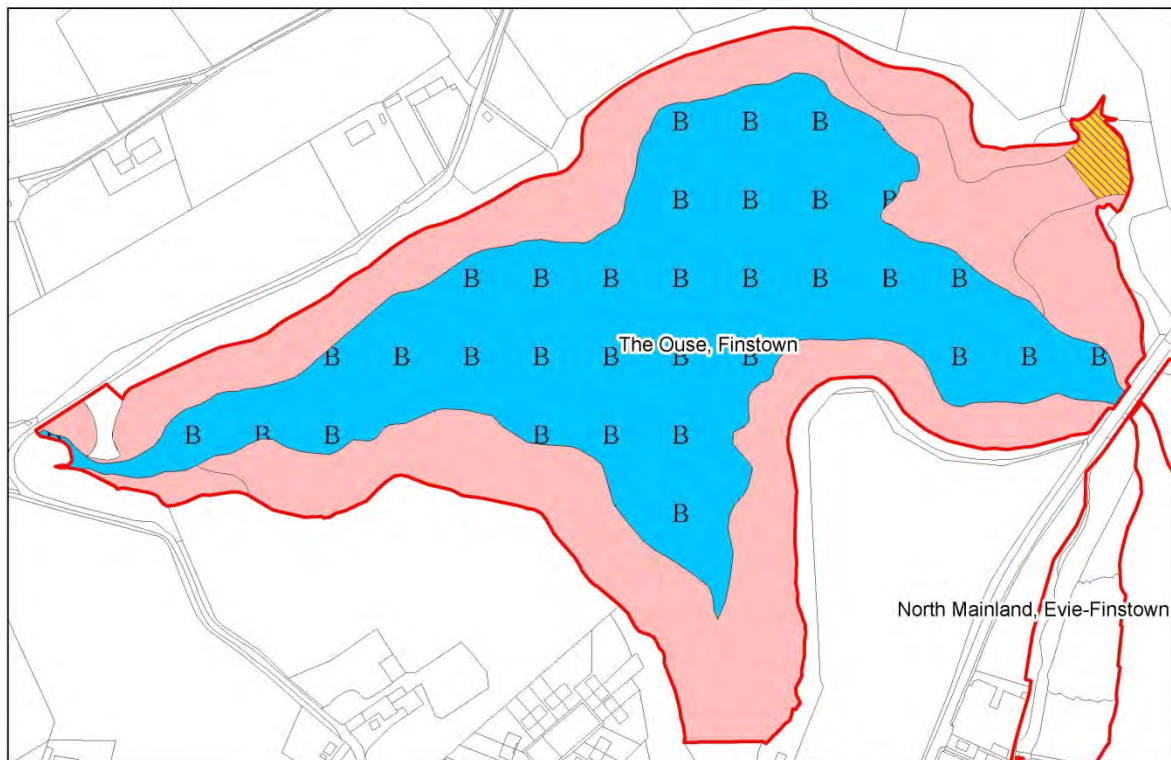
<b>The Ouse, Aikerness.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Westray.
<b>Area:</b> c. 44 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 219.
<b>Site Description:</b> The Ouse is a large area of intertidal mud and sand, with a shingle bar projecting out into the bay. It is an important feeding area for wintering waders, including curlew, turnstone and sanderling. There is a small colony of arctic terns.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Intertidal mud flats*. Coastal vegetated shingle*.	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Wintering waders*. Arctic tern*.
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



The Ouse, Aikerness, Westray (Site ref No: 219)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

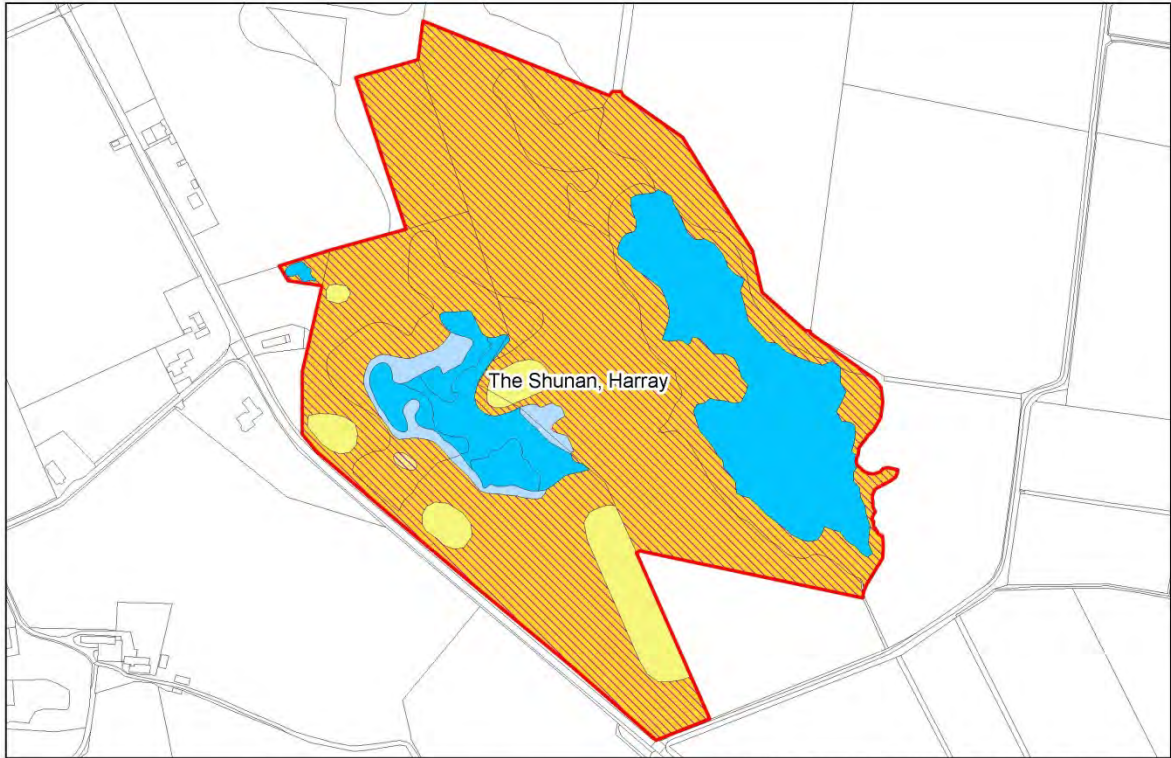
<b>The Ouse.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Finstown.
<b>Area:</b> c. 12 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 220.
<b>Site Description:</b> The site is a tidal lagoon with a border of saltmarsh. The swards of salt-adapted grasses and other plants on the saltmarsh are enlivened in summer by sea pinks and the blue flowers of sea aster. The lagoon supports a bed of seagrass. There are breeding oystercatcher and redshank, and the site is much used by wintering waders and other birds including heron and wigeon.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Coastal saltmarsh*. Saline lagoon*. Inter-tidal mudflats*.	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Redshank. Wintering waders. Wigeon. Heron. Sea aster.
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



The Ouse, Finstown (Site ref No: 220)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
 Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>The Shunan.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Harray.
<b>Area:</b> c. 14 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 221.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>The site comprises two small lochs surrounded by marshes, and some dry knowes with a cover of heather. Most of the marsh is dominated by tall vegetation, mainly meadowsweet with yellow iris, rushes and many others such as marsh marigold and water mint. The shallow margins of the lochs are overgrown with swamp plants including bogbean.</p> <p>A variety of waders nest on the site, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank, in good numbers. There are breeding ducks including gadwall, teal and shoveler, and small colonies of common and black-headed gulls. Smaller birds nesting here include meadow pipit, sedge warbler and reed bunting.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Eutrophic standing waters*.</p> <p>Mesotrophic lakes*.</p> <p>Lowland fens*.</p> <p>Upland heath*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Lapwing*.</p> <p>Curlew*.</p> <p>Snipe.</p> <p>Redshank.</p> <p>Gadwall*.</p> <p>Shoveler.</p> <p>Reed bunting*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	

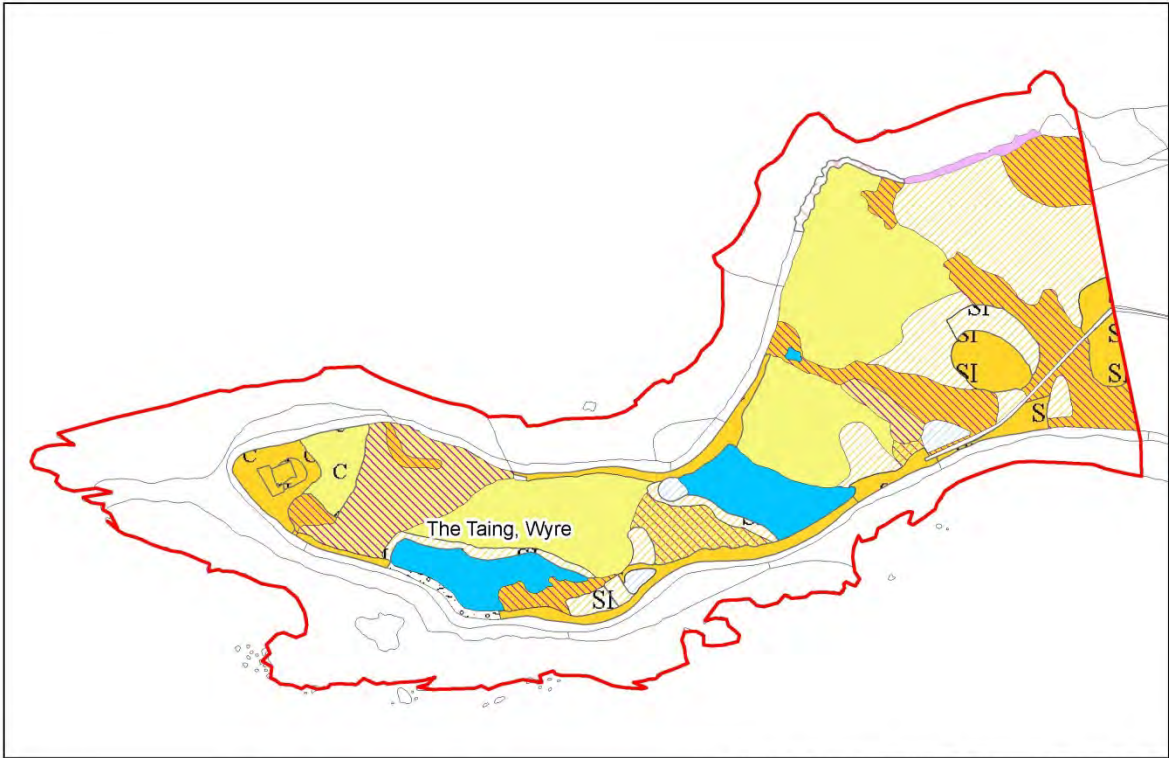


The Shunan, Harray (Site ref No: 221)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012



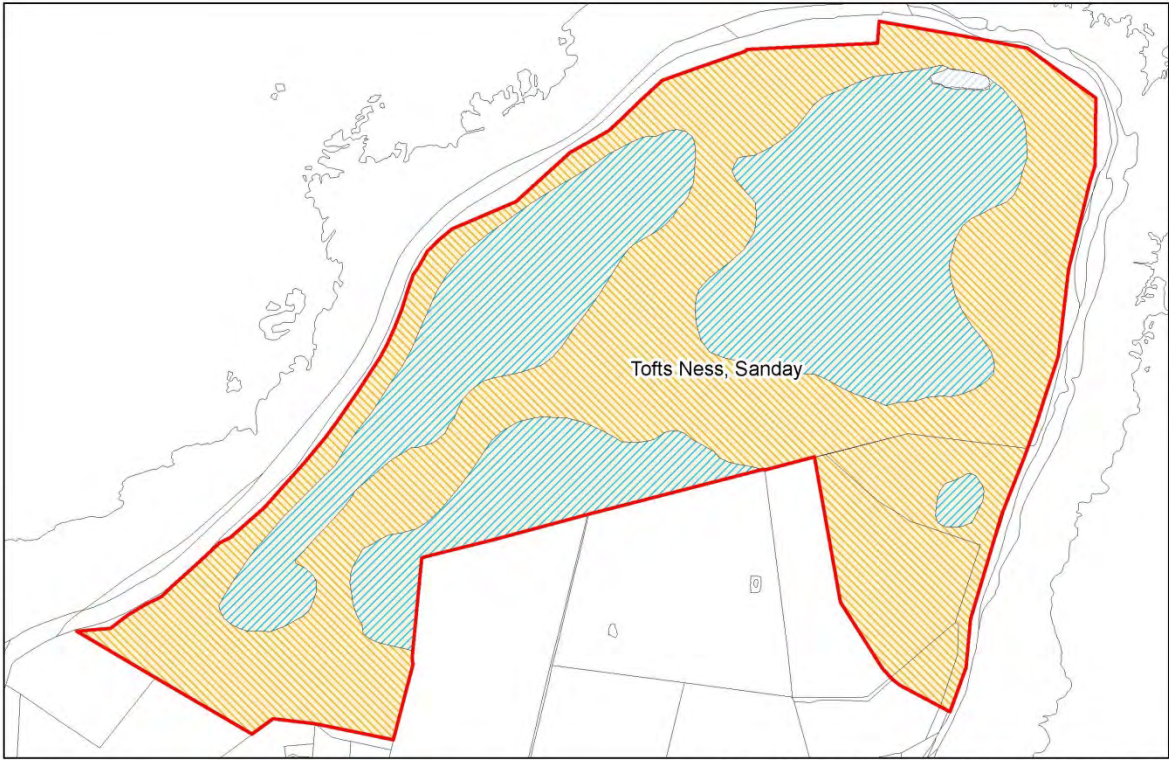
<b>The Taing.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Wyre.
<b>Area:</b> c. 27 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 222.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>The site comprises the long taing at the western extremity of Wyre, a low-lying area with moderate exposure to sea spray from the west and southwest, more sheltered on the north side. Vegetation is mainly heather moorland, with abundant crowberry and patches of lichen cover, and acid grassland. There are smaller areas of coastal heath, with plants such as sea plantain and spring squill; marshy grassland; and drier, semi-natural grassland. Both the marshy and the drier grassland are in places rich in species including orchids, vetches and sedges. There are two small lochs, both formed by shingle and boulder ayres, and several smaller pools, some of these drying up in summer. Two uncommon plant species, northern yellow-cress and water purslane, grow in some of these pools. Along the sheltered northern shore is a strip of saltmarsh, where salt-adapted grasses and other plants grow well down the shore. The site is important for breeding waders, including oystercatcher, ringed plover, lapwing, snipe, dunlin, curlew and redshank. There are a few breeding ducks, a pair of arctic terns and a small colony of arctic terns. Smaller birds nesting here include skylark and meadow pipit.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*.  Crowberry heath.  Maritime heath.  Maritime grassland.  Lowland dry acid grassland*.  Eutrophic standing waters*.  Coastal saltmarsh*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Lapwing*.  Curlew*.  Dunlin*.  Snipe.  Redshank.  Arctic tern*.  Skylark*.  Otter*.  Moss carder bee*.  Northern yellow-cress*.  Water purslane.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



The Taing, Wyre (Site ref No: 222)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

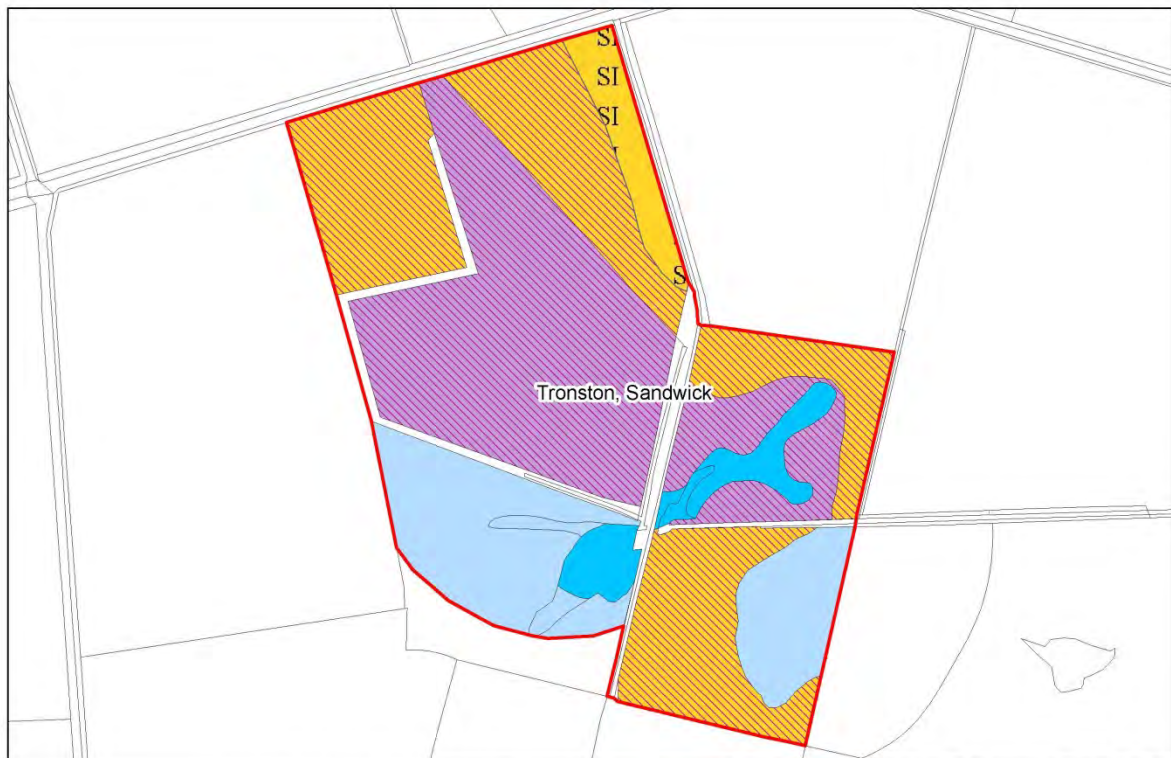
<b>Tofts Ness.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sanday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 79 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 223
<p><b>Site Description:</b></p> <p>This site mainly comprises a flat, sandy plain occupying the northeast extremity of Sanday. A slightly raised and free-draining coastal edge surrounds a low-lying centre that is little above sea level. Much of the area floods in winter, the water draining away in summer to form damp natural pastures with an abundance of wild flowers. This kind of landform, called links in Orkney, has been termed machair because of similarities with comparable landscapes in the Western Isles. Orchids, bird's-foot trefoil and grass-of-Parnassus are some of the plants that give colour to the area in summer. Oysterplant grows on the beach in one place. Several species that occur are uncommon locally or nationally.</p> <p>The site is important for its large number and variety of breeding birds, especially waders and gulls. Breeding lapwing and oystercatcher are abundant, and there are also curlew, redshank, snipe, ringed plover and dunlin. There are colonies of herring gulls and great black-backed gulls, a few lesser black-backed gulls and the occasional great skua and arctic tern. Small birds nesting include skylark, meadow pipit and wheatear.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b></p> <p>Machair*.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b></p> <p>Lapwing*.  Curlew*.  Redshank.  Snipe.  Dunlin*.  Herring gull*.  Great skua.  Skylark*.  Northern yellow-cress*.  Curved sedge*.  Oysterplant*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Tofts Ness, Sanday (Site ref No: 223)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Tronston.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sandwick.
<b>Area:</b> c. 6 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 224.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  The site comprises a marsh on deep peat, with pools and adjacent wet meadows. Much of the area is dominated by tall plants - meadowsweet, yellow iris and reed canary-grass. Pools and swamps have much bogbean and water horsetail. The meadows have pools too, among vegetation rich in wetland plants, especially sedges and orchids. In one place the variety of plant life is further enhanced by the influence of lime-rich springs.</p> <p>The area has not yet been surveyed for nesting birds, but the habitats can be expected at least to attract nesting waders like curlew, redshank and snipe. Dunlin have been seen here in the breeding season. Smaller birds like sedge warbler and reed bunting are also likely.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b>  Lowland fens*.  Eutrophic standing water*.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b>  Breeding waders and ducks</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Tronston, Sandwick (Site ref No: 224)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

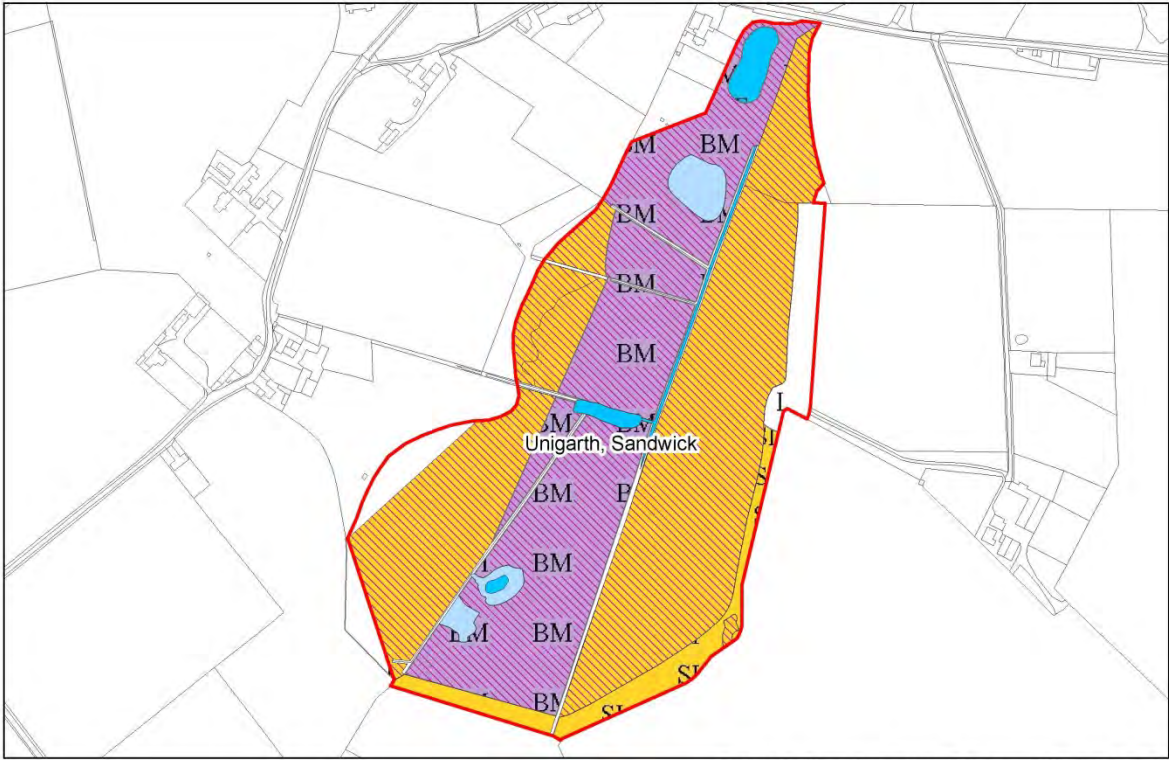
<b>Tui Fea.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Hoy..
<b>Area:</b> c. 1.5 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 225.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  This area includes one of Orkney's few remnant native woodlands. The attractive gully woodland contains a fairly dense area of rowans, willow and downy birch, with wild roses and honeysuckle. Rowan and birch seed well here and there are seedlings of these trees throughout the area. There is a second, smaller gully containing willows nearby in the same enclosure, and patches of willow bushes in moorland across the public road to the east. The trees and bushes are set within an area of moorland dominated by heather, with other plants including cross-leaved heather, bell heather, tormentil, greater wood-rush and bog cotton.</p> <p>The area has not yet been surveyed for breeding birds, but the habitats can be expected to support moorland, wetland and scrub species.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b>  Upland birch wood*.  Upland willow scrub.  Upland heathland*.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b>  Downy birch.  Grey willow.  Rowan.  Northern dog-rose.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Tue Fea, Hoy (Site ref No: 225)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only 2012

<b>Unigarth.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sandwick.
<b>Area:</b> c. 13 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 226.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>The site comprises a marsh on deep peat and adjacent wet meadows. The marsh has a variety of vegetation types and features. There are constructed ponds and planted non-native bushes at the northern end. Around these and elsewhere tall plants like meadowsweet, yellow iris and reed canary-grass are very common, with grasses and variety of smaller wetland plants. To the south, there are pools and swamps in old peat cuttings, much grown over with water horsetail and bog cotton. The grazing meadows have pools too, among much shorter vegetation that is also rich in wetland plants, especially sedges and orchids.</p> <p>The site is important for breeding waders – oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank all breed here in good numbers. It is also good for breeding ducks, including teal, gadwall and shoveler. A variety of small birds nest here as well, including skylark, meadow pipit, sedge warbler, dunnock and reed bunting.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Lowland meadows* .</p> <p>Lowland fens* .</p> <p>Eutrophic standing water* .</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Lapwing* .</p> <p>Snipe.</p> <p>Curlew* .</p> <p>Redshank.</p> <p>Gadwall.</p> <p>Shoveler.</p> <p>Reed bunting* .</p> <p>Sedge warbler.</p>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Unigarth, Sandwick (Site ref No: 226)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012



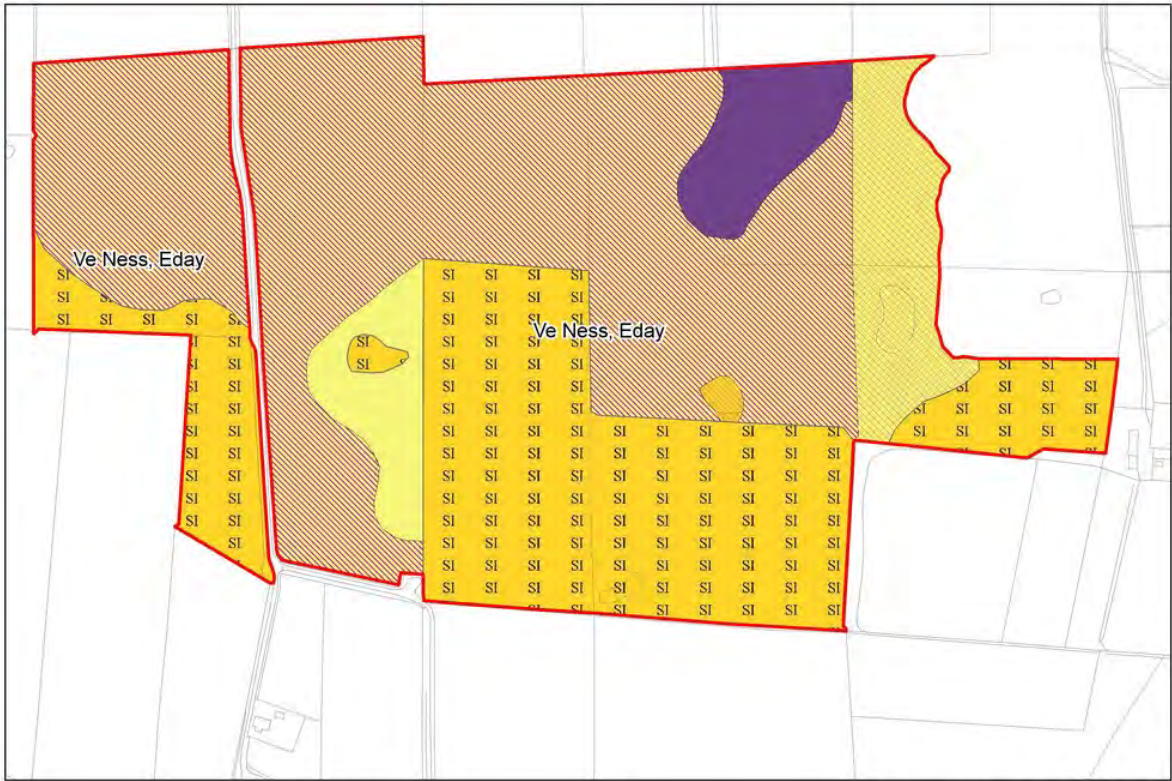
<b>Vasa Loch.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Shapinsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 6 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 227.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>Two small lochs separated from the sea by a shingle bank and surrounded by a strip of wet meadow and marsh.</p> <p>The site has small colonies of arctic terns and black-headed gulls, a pair of mute swans and some nesting tufted ducks. It supports breeding waders, including oystercatcher, ringed plover, curlew and redshank. This is an important site for whooper swans in winter.</p> <p>Coastal features here have also been recognised for their geomorphological (the shape and evolution of landforms) interest and importance.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Eutrophic standing water*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Arctic tern*.</p> <p>Curlew*.</p> <p>Redshank.</p> <p>Ringed plover.</p> <p>Black-headed gull*.</p> <p>Wintering whooper swans.</p> <p>Slender-Leaved Pondweed*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Vasa Loch, Shapinsay (Site ref No: 227)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

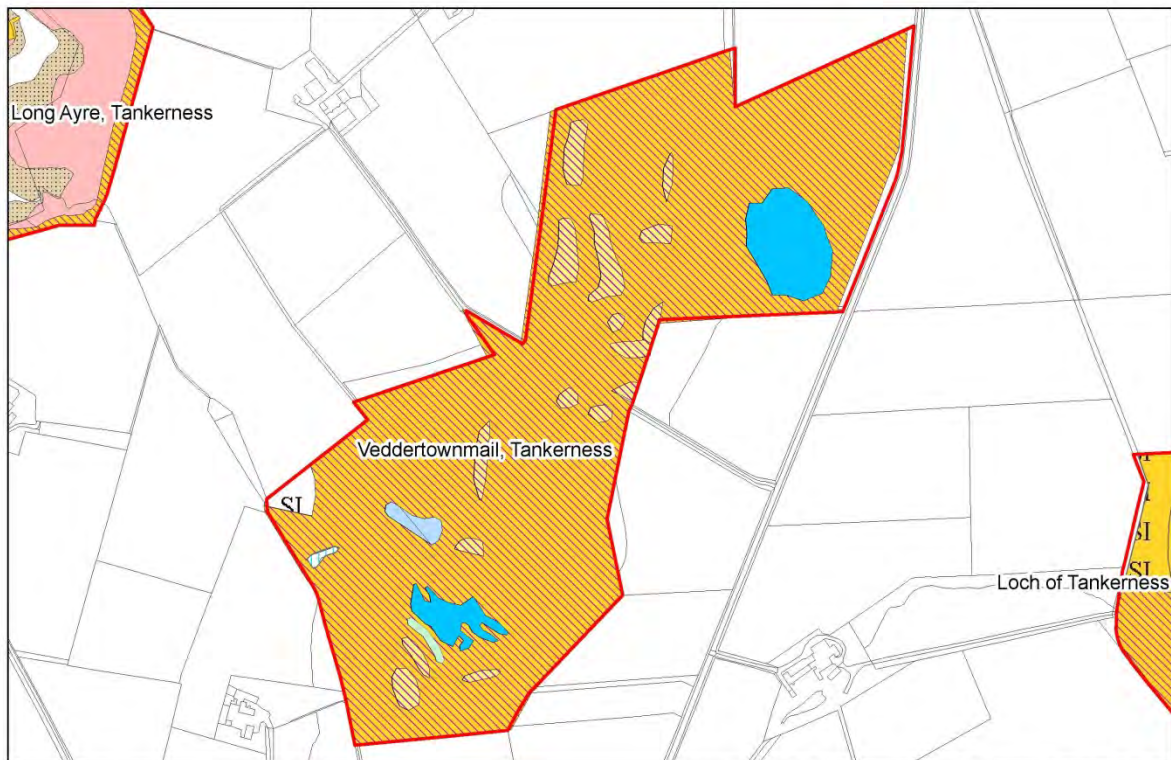
<b>Ve Ness.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Eday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 16 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 228.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>An area of heather moorland and related habitats surrounded by improved grassland. A more or less flat site, naturally poorly drained, with a lower, waterlogged area near the centre. The mainly wet moorland has crowberry and bog cotton amongst the heather. The wettest area has deeper peat and a small area of bog, with abundant bog cotton and some sphagnum moss. The eastern part of the site comprises sheep-grazed grassland, mainly semi-improved, and mosaics of heather and grassland.</p> <p>The site supports a variety of breeding waders – oystercatcher, lapwing, dunlin, snipe, curlew and redshank. There is also a common gull colony. Skylark, meadow pipit and twite nest here as well.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*. Blanket bog*. Crowberry.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Dunlin*. Lapwing*. Curlew*. Snipe. Redshank. Twite*. Skylark*. Common gull.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



**Ve Ness, Eday (Site ref No: 228)**

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021921. For reference purposes only. 2016

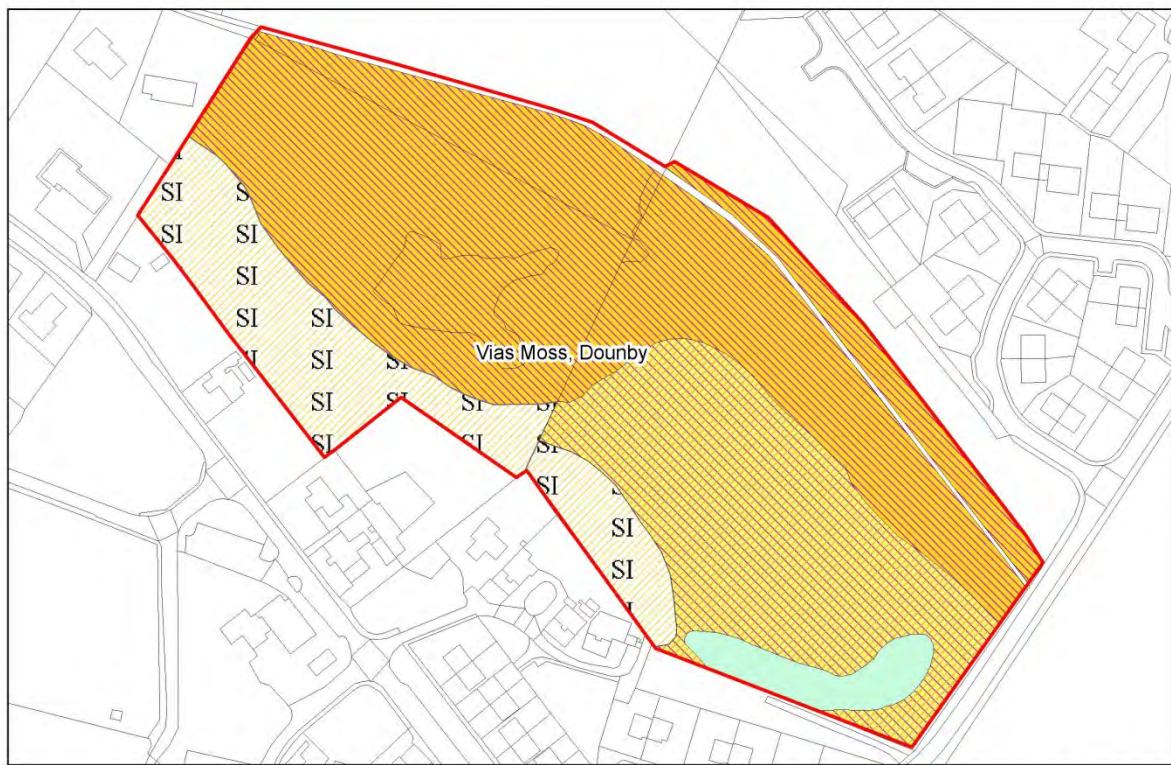
<b>Veddertownmail.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Tankerness.
<b>Area:</b> c. 15 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 229.
<b>Site Description:</b> The site is a marshy area with an abundance of meadowsweet and rushes and a variety of flowers including marsh marigold, ragged robin and yellow iris. The site supports breeding waders, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. There is also a small common gull colony. Small birds nesting here include reed bunting and meadow pipit. The site is much used by hunting hen harrier and short-eared owl.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b>	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Lapwing*. Curlew*. Redshank. Reed bunting*. Hunting birds of prey.
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Veddertownmail, Tankerness (Site ref No: 229)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

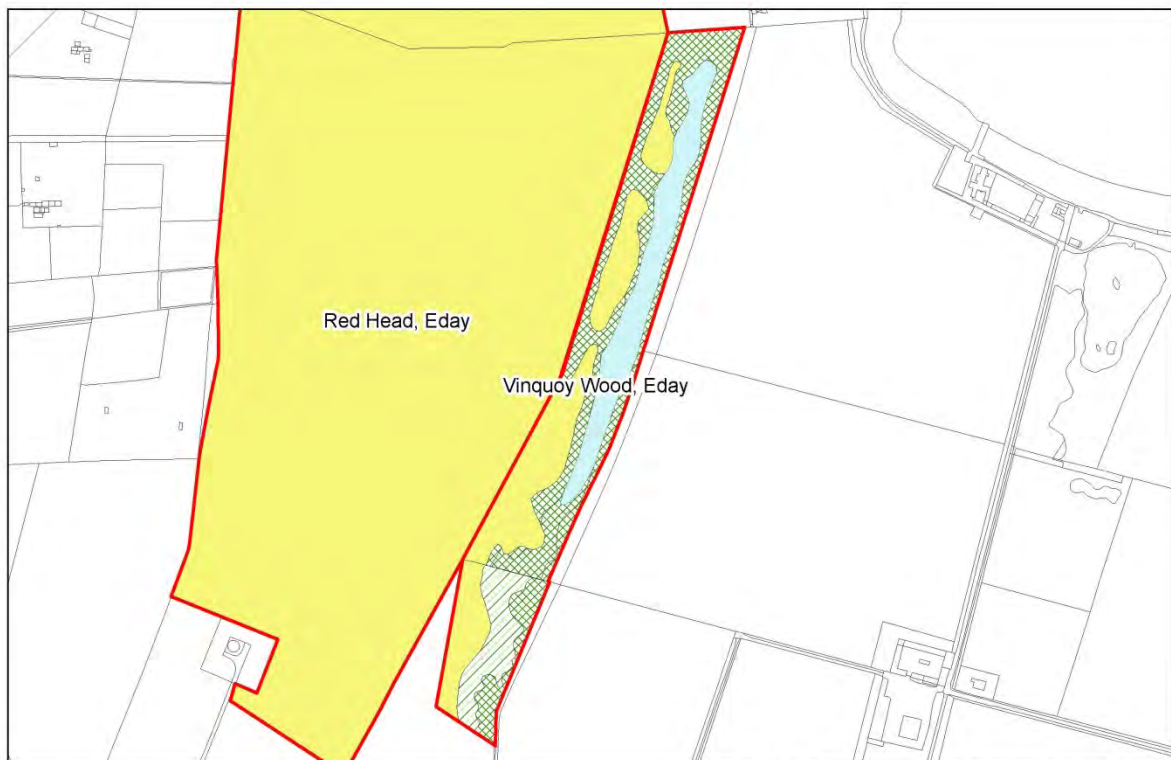
<b>Vias Moss.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Dounby.
<b>Area:</b> c. 4 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 230.
<b>Site Description:</b> An area of wetland close to Dounby with a small plantation of deciduous trees on drier ground. Some of the wetland is marshy grassland rich in flowering plants and sedges such as marsh marigold, orchids and ragged robin. Variety of plant life further increases where springs locally create more lime-rich conditions. There is a shallow pool with bogbean growing over much of it. The trees were planted as part of the Millennium Forest for Scotland project. Waders including oystercatcher and curlew breed here.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Lowland fens*.	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Curlew*. Native trees.
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Vias Moss, Dounby (Site ref No: 230)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Vinquoy Wood.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Eday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 5 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 231.
<b>Site Description:</b> This mature plantation woodland lies on the steep eastern slope of Vinquoy Hill. Most of the trees are European larch, with some lodgepole pine, Sitka spruce and sycamore. The plantation has recently been extended southwards, with trees including rowan, Swedish whitebeam, alder and hybrid larch. The new trees are 0.5 – 2.5 metres in height. Gorse covers an almost equal area to trees. A variety of woodland birds nest in the trees and the gorse. They include wood pigeon, wren, linnet, song thrush, blackbird, chaffinch, robin and twite.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Conifer plantation	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Twite*. Linnet*. Songthrush*. Robin. Chaffinch.
* Nationally important habitats and species.	

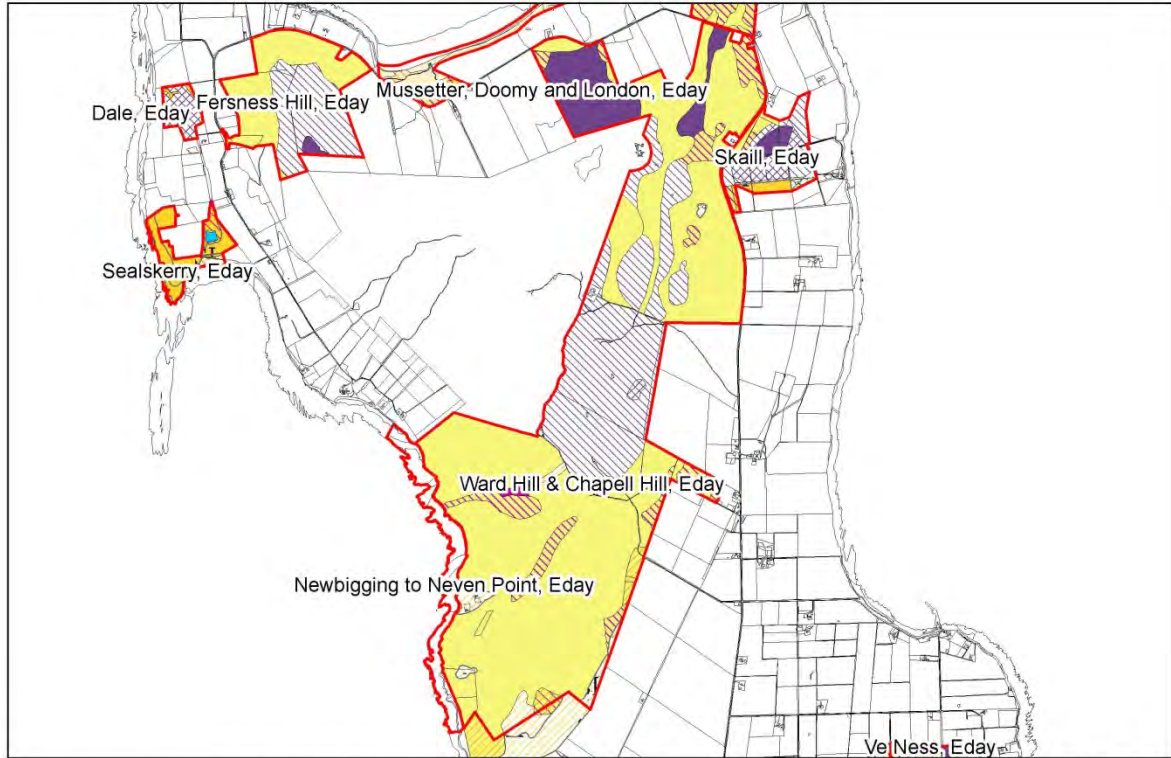


Vinquoy Wood, Eday (Site ref No: 231)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Ward Hill and Chapel Hill.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Eday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 335 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 232.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This site is a large area of hill ground to the south and east of Whitemaw Hill SSSI. The hills are moderately steep-sided with gently rounded summits forming small plateaux in places, especially on Ward Hill, and there are small shallow valleys running down from the hills. Much of the area has been very heavily cut for peat in the past, but much of the vegetation has healed, to a form of dry heather moorland on peat of varying depth, though continuing erosion and bare, stony ground is common. There are small areas of deeper, wetter peat with bog vegetation including bog cotton and sphagnum moss. An unusual feature at the north-eastern end of the site is the presence of a layer of sand under-lying the peat.</p> <p>The site is important for breeding waders, including oystercatcher, golden plover, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. Arctic and great skua also nest here in small numbers, also colonies of arctic terns and common gulls. Small birds that breed here include skylark, meadow pipit, wheatear, twite and wren.</p> <p>Coastal features here have also been recognised for their geological interest and importance.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*.  Crowberry heath  Blanket bog*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Arctic tern*.  Arctic skua*.  Great Skua.  Golden plover*.  Lapwing*.  Curlew*.  Snipe.  Skylark*.  Twite*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	





Ward Hill & Chapell Hill, Eday (Site ref No: 232)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

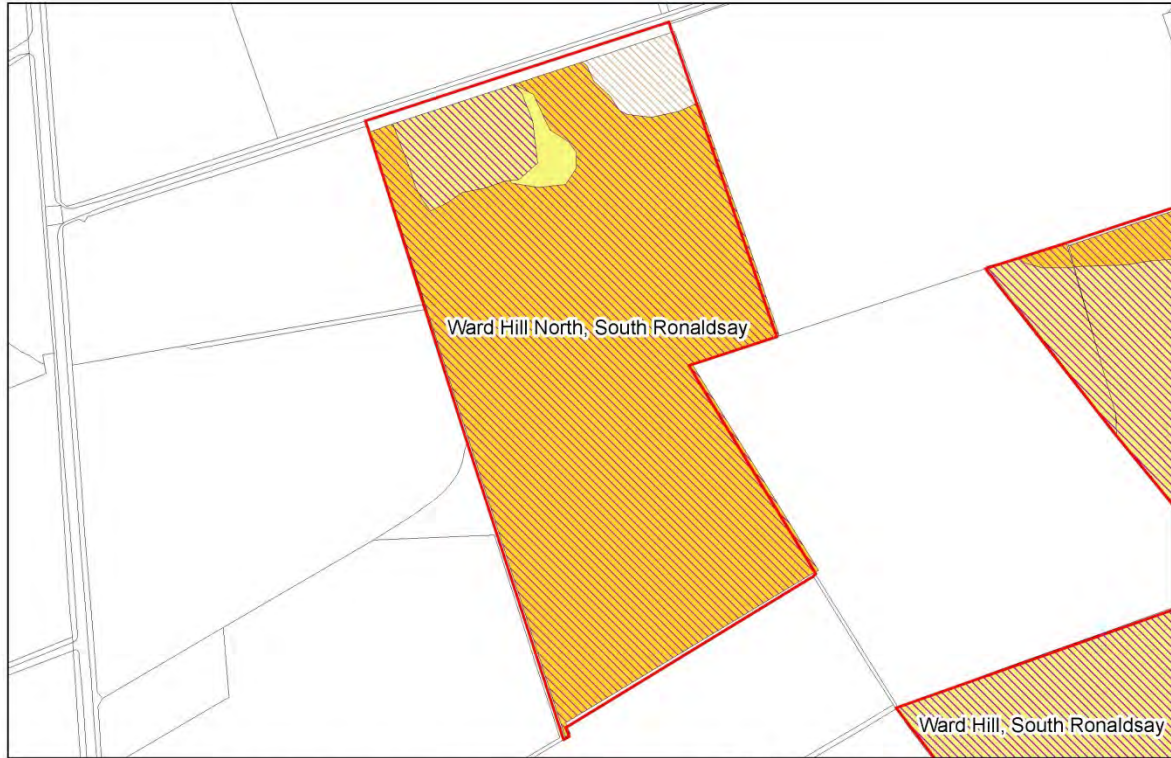
<b>Ward Hill East.</b>	<b>Location:</b> South Ronaldsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 6 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 233.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  An area of mainly wet heather moorland, with some drier areas. There is also some marshy grassland with purple moor grass. Much of the wet moorland and marshy grassland is rich in flowering plants and sedges. Lichens and mosses are locally abundant. Variety of plant life further increases where springs locally create more lime-rich conditions.</p> <p>The area has not yet been surveyed for nesting birds, but the habitats can be expected to attract nesting waders like curlew, snipe and lapwing, also skylark and meadow pipit.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b>  Upland heath*.  Crowberry heath  Upland flushes, fens and swamps*.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b>  Breeding waders and small moorland birds*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Ward Hill East, South Ronaldsay (Site ref No: 233)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

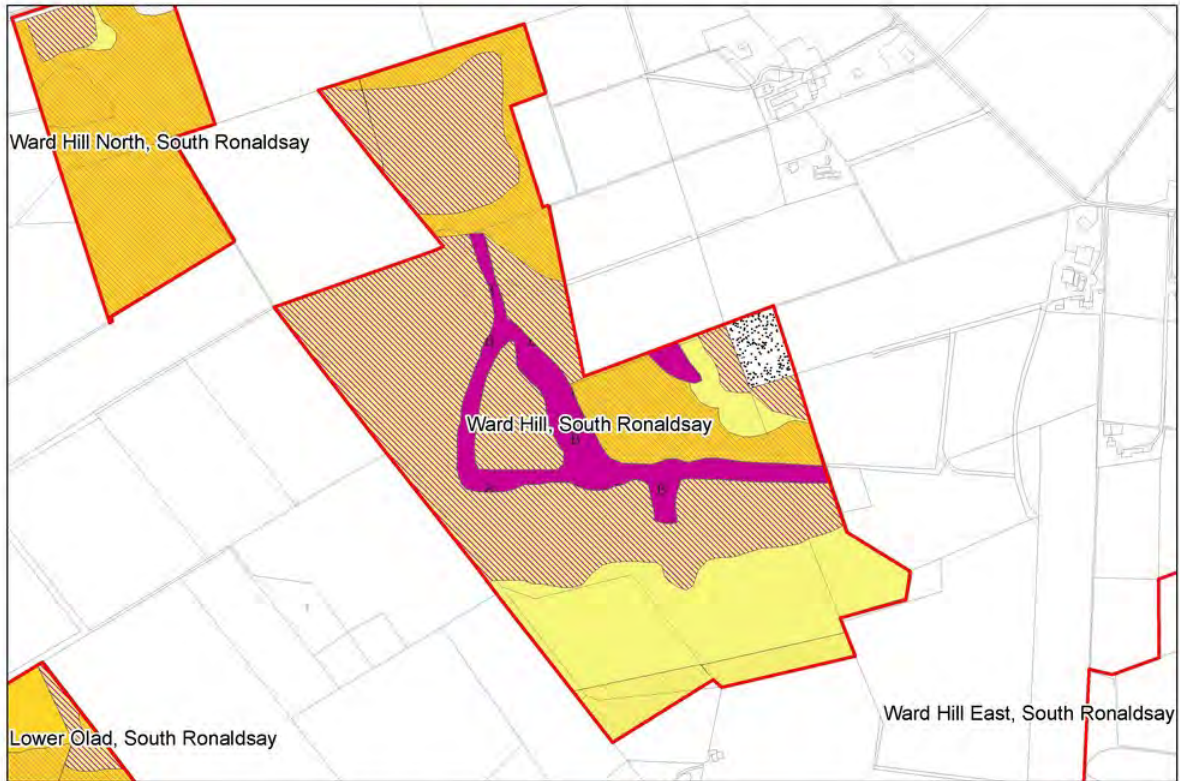
<b>Ward Hill North.</b>	<b>Location:</b> South Ronaldsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 5 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 234.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>An area of marshy grassland with small patches of wet and dry heather moorland. The wet moorland is especially rich in flowering plants and sedges, such as grass of Parnassus and butterwort. The northern half of the site has been extensively planted in recent years with non-native tree species, including willow hybrids, fir, pine and alder.</p> <p>The site supports a variety of breeding waders – oystercatcher, lapwing, curlew and snipe. Small birds breeding on the site are skylark, meadow pipit, sedge warbler, reed bunting and linnet.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*.</p> <p>Lowland fens*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Curlew*.</p> <p>Lapwing*.</p> <p>Snipe.</p> <p>Skylark*.</p> <p>Sedge warbler.</p> <p>Reed bunting*.</p> <p>Linnet*.</p>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Ward Hill North, South Ronaldsay (Site ref No: 234)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

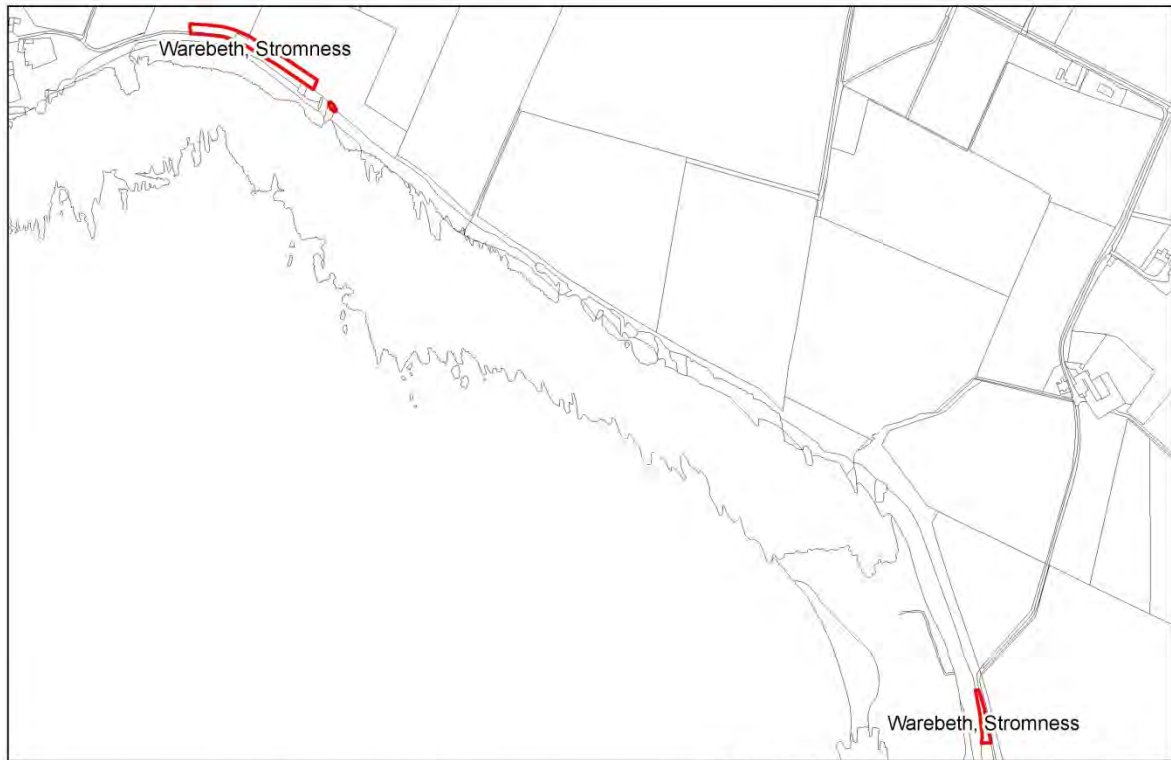
<b>Ward Hill.</b>	<b>Location:</b> South Ronaldsay.
<b>Area:</b> c. 24 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 235.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>The site lies on the steep, north-facing slope of Ward Hill and the gently sloping ground below. The most extensive habitat is wet moorland and marshy grassland on the lower ground. Much of this is rich in flowering plants and sedges. Variety of plant life further increases where springs locally create more lime-rich conditions. Dry heather moorland on the steeper ground occupies a much smaller area and some has been converted to improved or semi-improved grassland.</p> <p>The site supports a variety of breeding waders including oystercatcher, lapwing, curlew and snipe. There is a common gull colony and a pair of great skuas. Small birds breeding on the site are skylark and meadow pipit. Great yellow bumblebees have been recorded here.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*.  Crowberry heath.  Species-rich heath.  Lowland fens*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Great skua.  Curlew*.  Lapwing*.  Snipe.  Skylark*.  Great yellow bumblebee*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Ward Hill, South Ronaldsay (Site ref No: 235)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2016

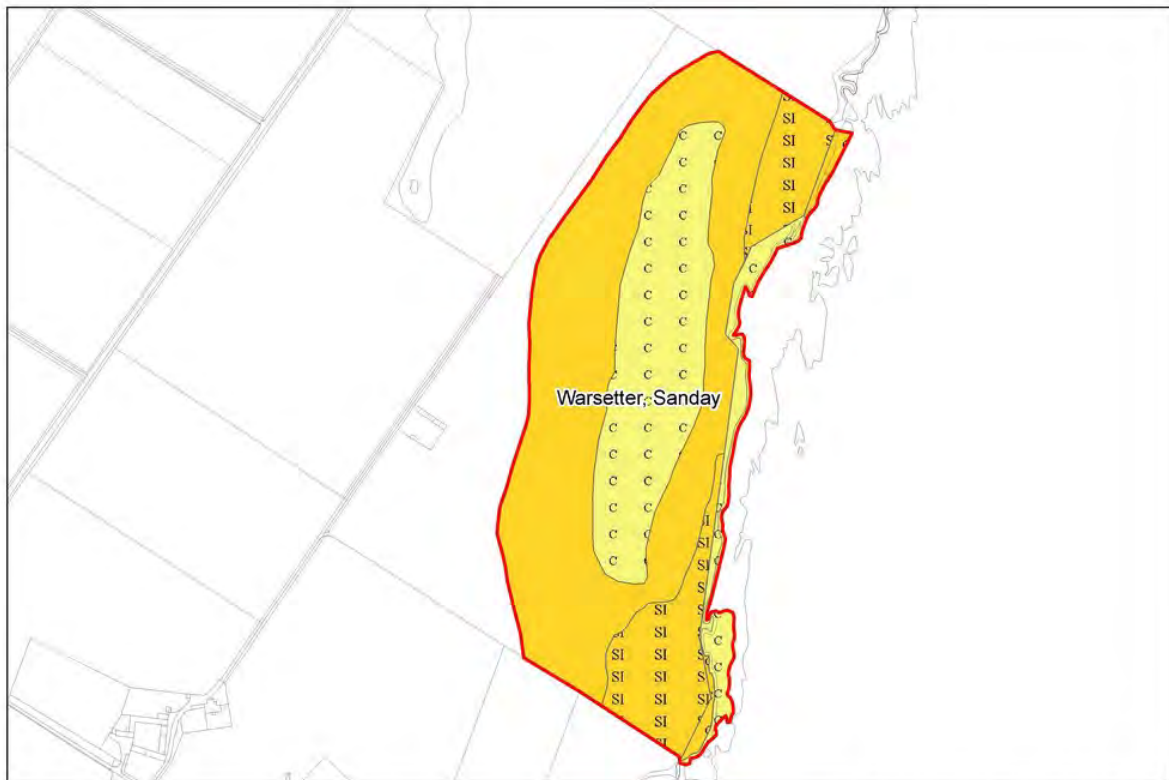
<b>Warebeth.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Stromness.
<b>Area:</b> c. 0.3 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 236.
<b>Site Description:</b> The site is important for its outcrops of aeolianite and the distinctive array of plants associated with it. Aeolianite is a soft rock formed from wind-blown deposits of lime-rich sand. The small outcrops at Warebeth together comprise one of only two sites in Orkney. Some small, drought-resistant plants such as thyme and kidney vetch can root into it: another is sea fern-grass, which in Orkney is found only on aeolianite.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Aeolianite	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Stiff sand-grass
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Warebeth, Stromness (Site ref No: 236)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Warsetter.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sanday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 14 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 237.
<p><b>Site Description:</b></p> <p>This steep hillside to the south of the Wart, the highest point in Sanday, retains some natural grassland and coastal heath kept short by grazing. Both heath and grassland are rich in flowers, such as spring squill, bird's-foot trefoil and thyme. It is a good area to find several species of bumblebees. There are some plants that are rare in the island.</p> <p>The area has not been surveyed for nesting birds, but the habitats can be expected to attract skylark and meadow pipit.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b></p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope.  Maritime heath*.  Maritime grassland.  Lowland meadows.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b></p> <p>Alpine bistort (a plant).  Mountain everlasting (a plant).  Heath bumblebee.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	

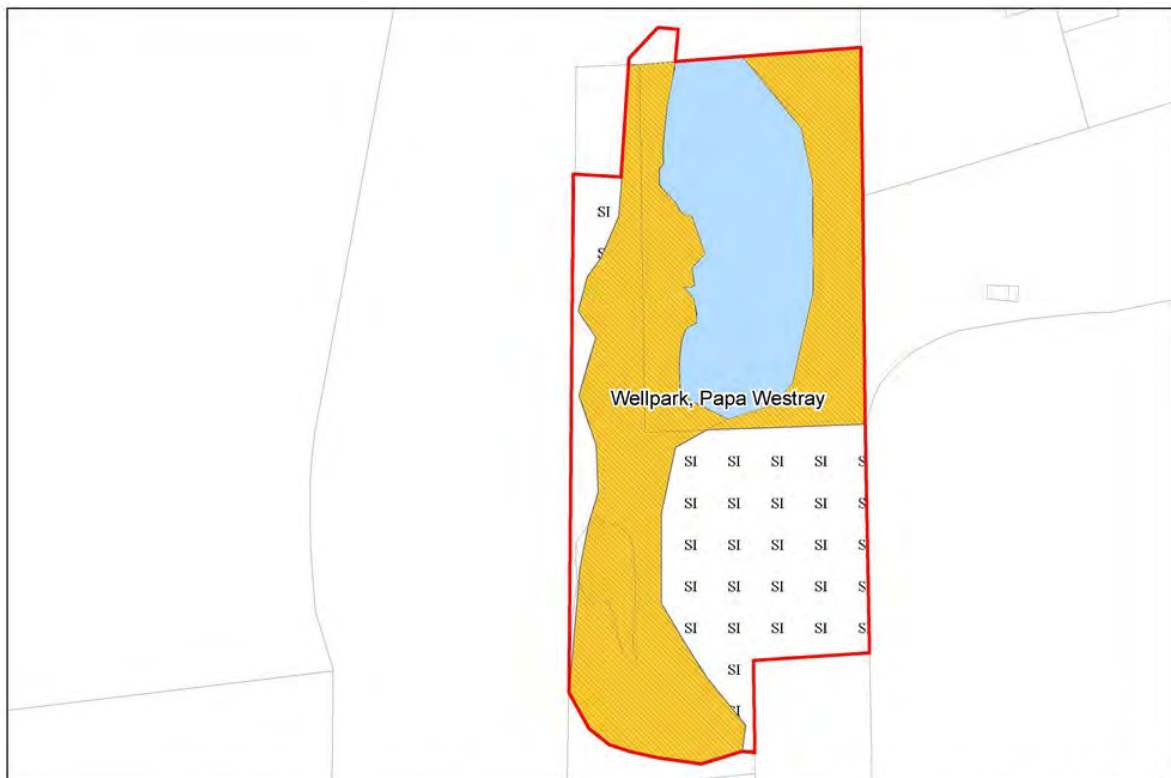


Warsetter, Sanday (Site ref No: 237)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 10/02/15/21. For reference purposes only. 2018



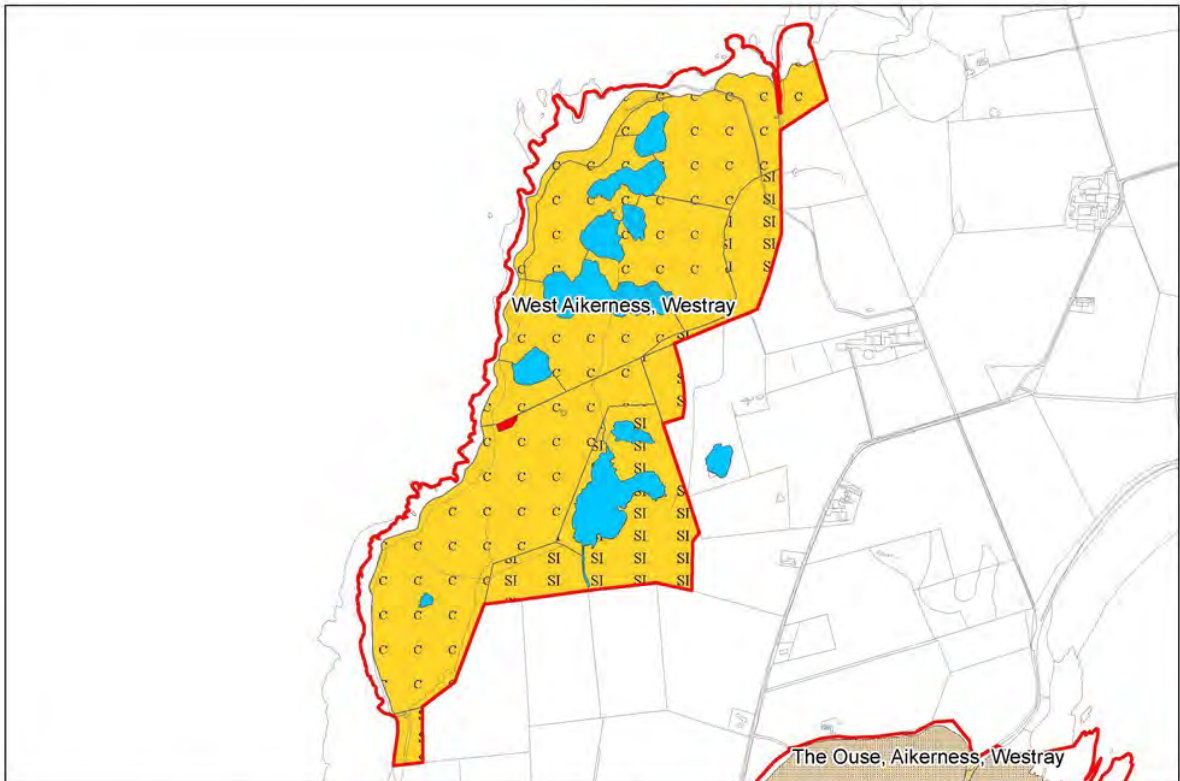
<b>Wellpark.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Papa Westray.
<b>Area:</b> c. 3 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 238.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  An area of marsh and marshy grassland dominated by yellow iris, surrounding a small loch that partially dries in summer.</p> <p>The site supports breeding waders, including oystercatcher, lapwing, curlew, snipe and redshank. Ducks such as teal and shoveler also nest here. There are colonies of black-headed gulls, common gulls and arctic terns, and a few pairs of sandwich terns.</p>	
<b>Special Habitats:</b>	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Arctic tern*. Sandwich tern*. Black-headed gull*. Curlew*. Lapwing*. Redshank. Snipe.
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Wellpark, Papa Westray (Site ref No: 238)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100001621. For reference purposes only. 2016

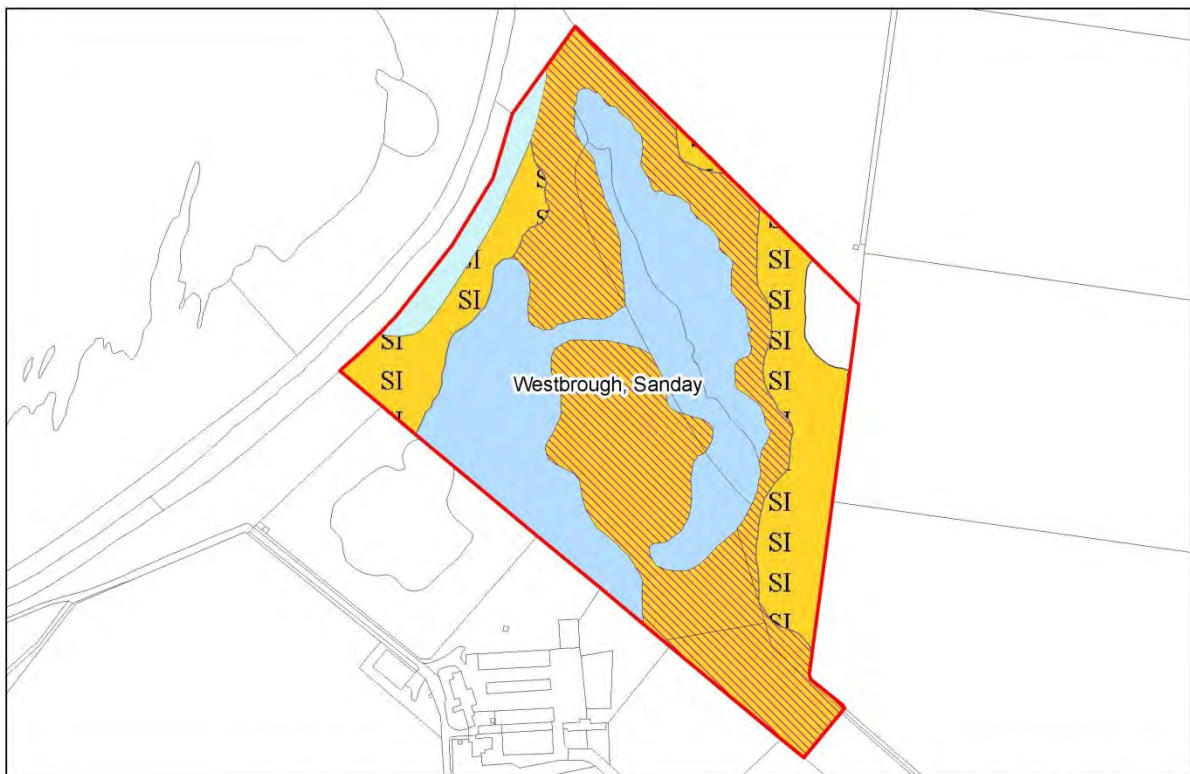
<b>West Aikerness.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Westray.
<b>Area:</b> c. 54 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 239
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>An area of very exposed coastal heath and grassland with a number of small lochs. Some of the lochs are brackish, owing to the quantity of sea spray deposited in winter storms. Vegetation near the cliff tops is sparse, except for plants more typically found at sea level in saltmarshes, and sea pinks growing in the rocky terrain. Further inland, short, wind-clipped heather and crowberry predominate, interwoven with small herbs such as bird's-foot trefoil. The rare Scottish primrose <i>Primula scotica</i> occurs in several places on this site.</p> <p>The site supports a variety of sea birds including an arctic tern colony and breeding arctic and great skuas. There are many breeding oystercatchers and smaller number so other waders such as lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. The area is also good for breeding ducks, including shelduck, gadwall and teal.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Maritime cliff and slope*.</p> <p>Maritime heath.</p> <p>Maritime grassland.</p> <p>Eutrophic standing water*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p><i>Primula scotica</i>*.</p> <p>Arctic tern*.</p> <p>Arctic skua*.</p> <p>Lapwing*.</p> <p>Curlew*.</p> <p>Redshank.</p> <p>Gadwall.</p>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



West Aikerness, Westray (Site ref No: 239)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2016

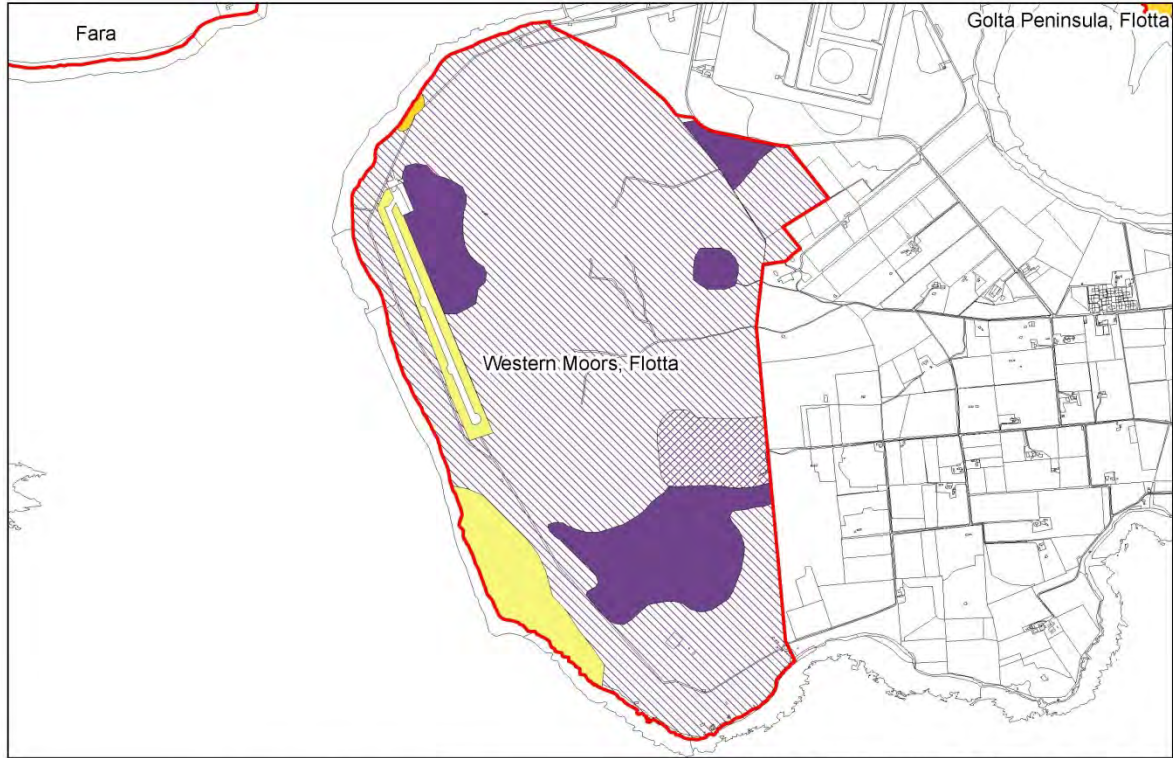
<b>Westbrough.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sanday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 8 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 240.
<b>Site Description:</b> This site comprises an area of marsh behind a shingle ayre, flooded in winter but naturally draining in summer to leave marsh and swamp. Large parts of the site are dominated by beds of yellow iris and reed canary-grass. A variety of waders nest on the site, including oystercatcher, lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. These are also breeding ducks including teal and shoveler. Smaller birds nesting here include meadow pipit and sedge warbler.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b>	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Lapwing*. Curlew*. Redshank. Snipe. Shoveler.
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Westbrough, Sanday (Site ref No: 240)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

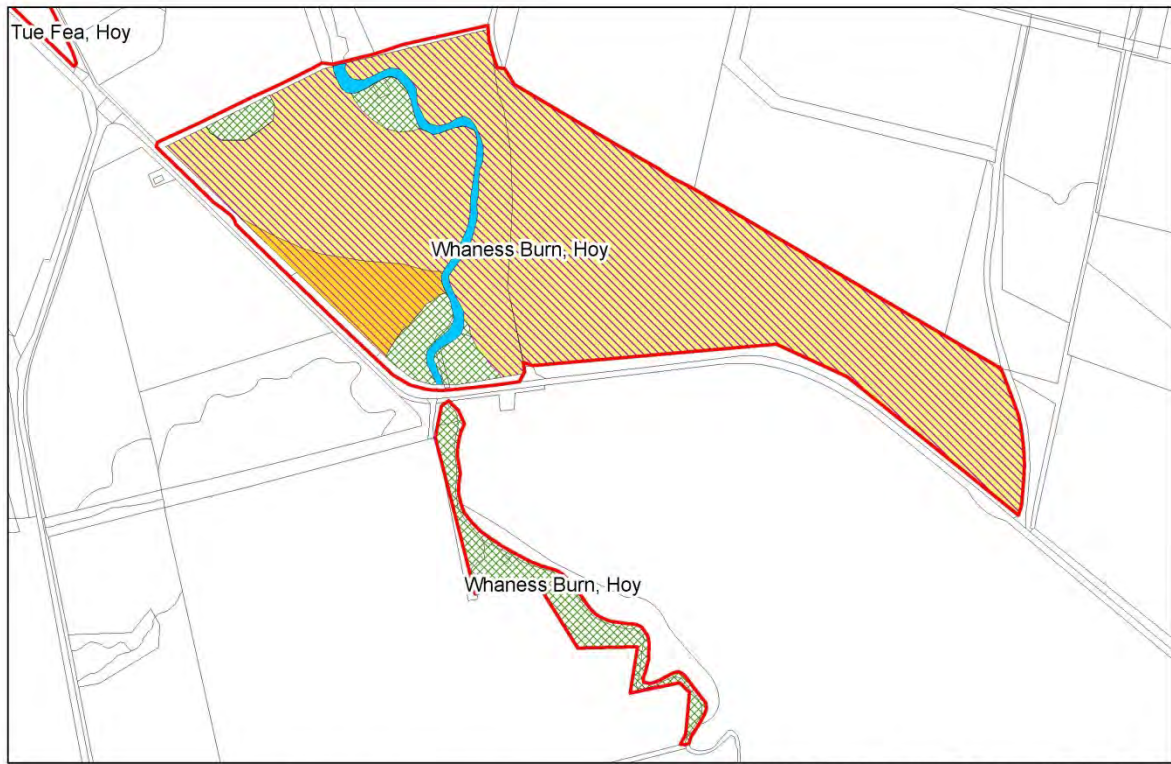
<b>Western Moors, Flotta.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Flotta.
<b>Area:</b> c. 243 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 241
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>This area is almost entirely covered in blanket bog, mostly dried out and with extensive peat cutting and tracks. Heather, bog cotton and crowberry dominate this habitat. There are three areas of wetter bog: in depressions close to the airstrip and at the head of the Mill Burn, and a small area on the summit of West Hill. These areas have plants such as bog cotton, bog asphodel and sphagnum moss with the still-dominant heather.</p> <p>The site supports a variety of breeding birds. Waders such as oystercatcher, curlew and snipe breed in good numbers. Arctic skua and great skua are abundant and there is a colony of common gulls. Arctic tern also nest on the site. Short-eared owl and raven breed here, as do a variety of small birds, including skylark, meadow pipit, rock pipit and stonechat.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*. Blanket bog*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Short eared owl*. Arctic skua*. Great skua. Arctic tern*. Black-headed gull*. Curlew*. Snipe. Redshank. Skylark*. Large heath (butterfly)*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Western Moors, Flotta (Site ref No: 241)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Whaness Burn.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Hoy.
<b>Area:</b> c. 5 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 242.
<b>Site Description:</b> This area includes one of Orkney's few remnant native woodlands. The trees are willow and downy birch, with wild roses and honeysuckle. Some of the grey willows are unusually large specimens. Birch set seed well here and there are seedlings within the area and nearby. The trees and bushes are set within an area of moorland dominated by heather, with other plants including cross-leaved heather, bell heather, bog asphodel and bog cotton. The golden-ringed dragonfly, in Orkney known only from north Hoy, breeds along this burn, and other dragonflies and damselflies are present.	
<b>Special Habitats:</b> Upland willow scrub. Upland heathland*. Burns and canalised burns.	<b>Special Wildlife:</b> Downy birch. Grey willow. Northern dog-rose. Golden-ringed dragonfly. Common hawket dragonfly. Large red damselfly.
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



Whaness Burn, Hoy (Site ref No: 242)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

<b>Whitaloo Point.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Birsay.
<b>Area:</b> N/A.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 243.
<p><b>Site Description:</b></p> <p>At Whitaloo Point a sharp monoclinial fold illustrates the immense physical forces which helped shape Orkney.</p> <p>Over most of Orkney the sedimentary rocks are horizontal or gently dipping and disposed in shallow, large-scale folds. However a few narrow belts of more highly folded and contorted sediments occur and a striking exposure of one such belt showing a sharp monoclinial fold in Upper Stromness Flags is found on the west coast at Whitaloo Point.</p> <p>The fold forms a small promontory to the west of a steep-sided narrow inlet and, as much of the cliff top in the vicinity has been swept bare of soil and vegetation, the flexure can be clearly seen in three dimensions. Within the major structure, intensive minor folding can be seen in the less competent beds and several examples of differential folding occur. The fold lies on the axis of the West mainland anticline.</p>	
<b>Special Habitats:</b>	<b>Special Wildlife:</b>
* Nationally important habitats and species.	



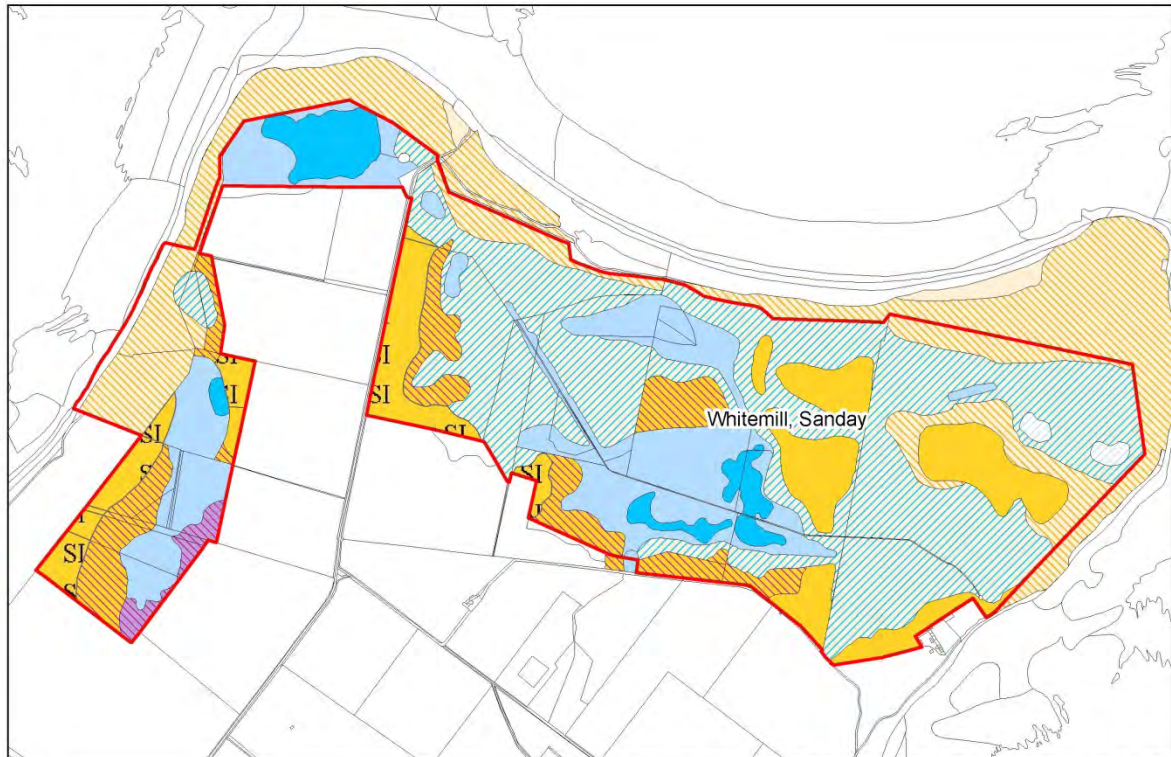
Whitaloo Point, Birsay (Site ref No: 243)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012



<b>Whitemill.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Sanday.
<b>Area:</b> c. 82 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 244.
<p><b>Site Description:</b></p> <p>This large site mainly comprises a low-lying, almost level area of wetland occupying much of the northeast tip of the Burness peninsular. Almost all of it overlies a layer of shell sand, accumulated between a narrow ridge of sand dunes on its seaward side and slightly higher ground on its landward side.</p> <p>The coastal edge of low sand dunes is not part of the site because it is included in a Special Area of Conservation and Special Protection Area (mainly for common seals and wintering waders).</p> <p>This kind of land form, called links in Orkney, has been termed machair because of similarities with comparable landscapes in the Western Isles. The unusual conditions, of lime-rich sand in a basin almost at sea level, create a variety of special habitats. They include a small loch and many swamps and shallow pools with plants such as marsh marigold and water-mint, sometimes fringed with tall reeds and yellow iris; and wet meadows with an abundance of flowers such as orchids, grass-of-Parnassus and ragged-robin. Several unusual plants and insects occur.</p> <p>The site is important for its large number and variety of breeding birds, especially waders and ducks. Breeding lapwing and redshank are abundant, and there are also curlew, ringed plover and dunlin. Wildfowl nesting here include pintail, wigeon, teal, shoveler and tufted duck. There are small numbers of breeding gulls, and arctic and common terns. Small birds nesting include skylark, meadow pipit, wheatear and reed bunting.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b></p> <p>Eutrophic standing waters*.</p> <p>Reed beds*.</p> <p>Lowland fens*.</p> <p>Lowland Meadows.</p> <p>Machair*.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b></p> <p>Lapwing*.</p> <p>Curlew*.</p> <p>Redshank.</p> <p>Wigeon.</p> <p>Pintail*.</p> <p>Shoveler.</p> <p>Reed bunting*.</p> <p>Skylark*.</p> <p>Otter*.</p> <p>Great yellow bumblebee*.</p> <p>Moss carder bee*.</p> <p>Blue-tailed damselfly.</p> <p>Glaucous club-rush.</p> <p>Bristly stonewort.</p> <p>Lesser bearded stonewort.</p> <p>Clustered stonewort*.</p> <p>Slender-leaved pondweed*.</p>

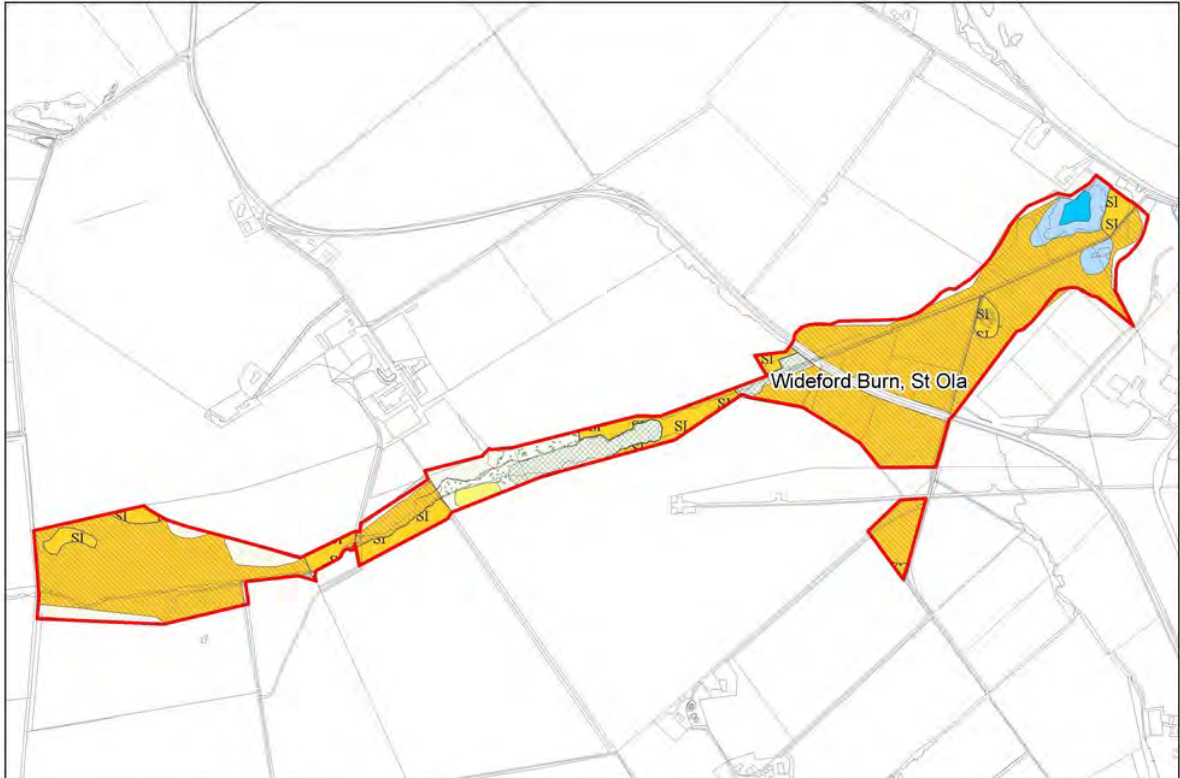
\* Nationally important habitats and species.



Whitemill, Sanday (Site ref No: 244)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2012

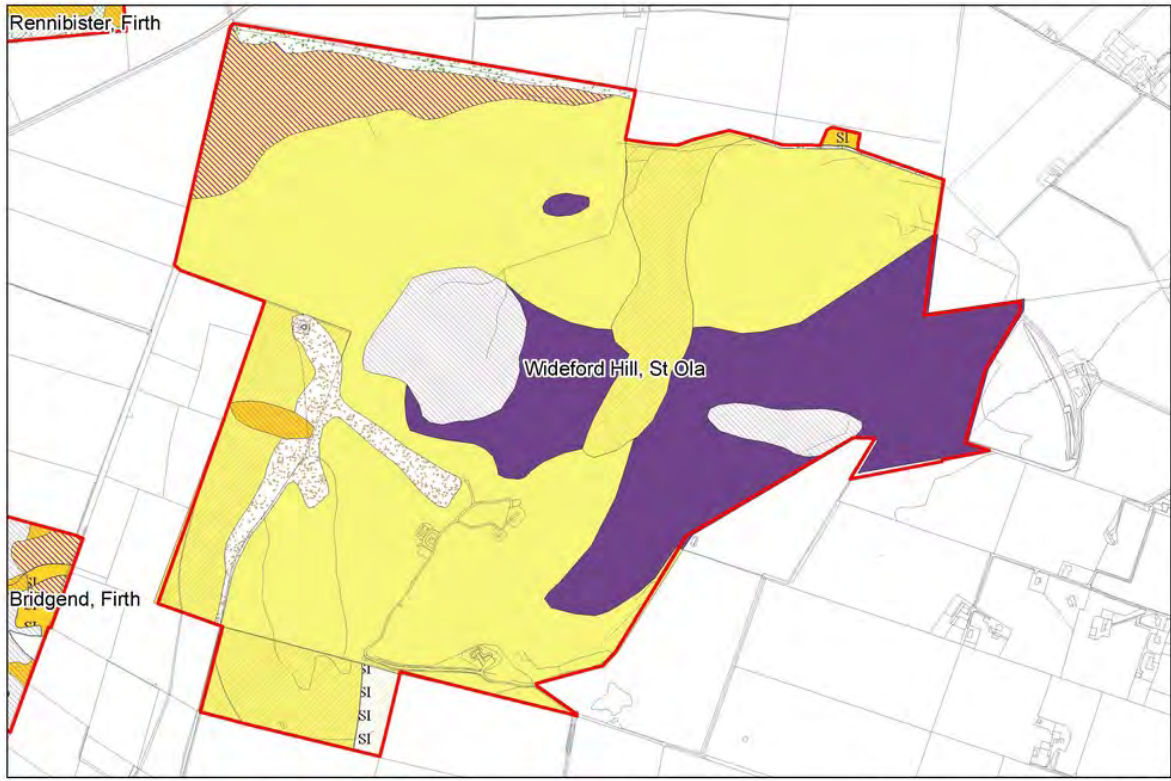
<b>Wideford Burn.</b>	<b>Location:</b> St Ola.
<b>Area:</b> c. 24 hectares	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 245.
<p><b>Site Description:</b></p> <p>This site stretches for approximately two kilometres along Wideford Burn, upstream from its mouth at Inganess Bay. Close to the bay there is a small freshwater loch where damselflies breed. The lower section of the site comprises mainly marsh with tall plants, especially meadowsweet, which is often dominant. Other flowers include yellow iris, wild angelica and marsh marigold.</p> <p>Further upstream, the section west of the main road has dense native willow scrub, together with non-native trees, including willows, alder, rowan, hawthorn, Swedish whitebeam and downy birch. In open areas amongst the trees, there are patches of heather, blaeberry and bell heather.</p> <p>The uppermost section has marshy grassland, with shorter vegetation and a variety of wetland plants, especially where there are lime-rich springs.</p> <p>The sheltered, wooded valley is important for a wide variety of migrant birds in spring and autumn. Sedge warbler, willow warbler, song thrush, reed bunting and wren all nest on the site. The wetland areas support small numbers of breeding waders, including curlew.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b></p> <p>Wet woodland*.</p> <p>Upland heath*.</p> <p>Lowland fens*.</p> <p>Purple moorgrass and rush pasture*.</p> <p>Eutrophic standing water*.</p> <p>Burns and canalised burns.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b></p> <p>Song thrush*.</p> <p>Reed bunting*.</p> <p>Curlew*.</p> <p>Snipe.</p> <p>Sedge warbler.</p> <p>Migrant birds.</p> <p>Tea-leaved willow.</p> <p>Garden tiger (a moth)*.</p> <p>Large red damselfly.</p> <p>Blue-tailed damselfly.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Wideford Burn, St Ola (Site ref No: 245)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2016

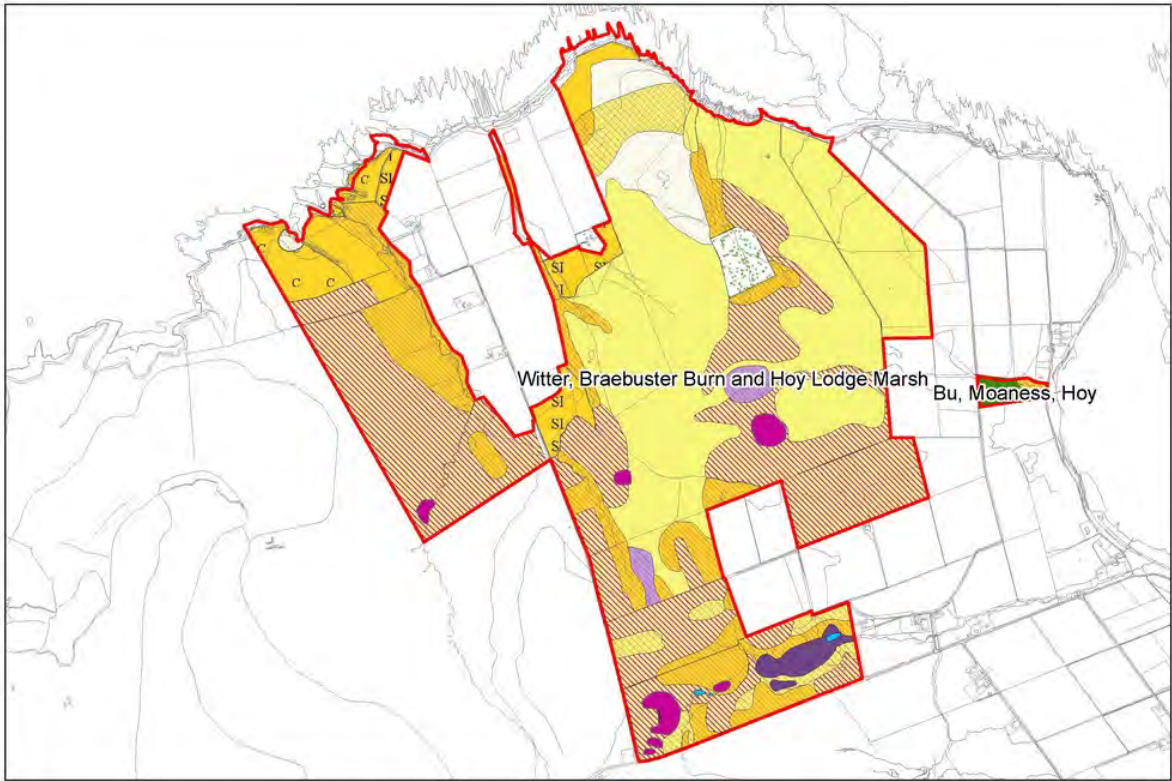
<b>Wideford Hill.</b>	<b>Location:</b> St Ola.
<b>Area:</b> c. 183 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 246.
<p>Site Description:</p> <p>An extensive area of moorland, mainly dry on the steeper ground, where it is dominated by heather with other shrubs including bell heather and crowberry. Some parts round the edges have mixed grass/heather, as a result of livestock grazing. Some flatter areas have deeper peat with bog vegetation including bog cotton, heather, bog asphodel and sphagnum moss. Gorse grows along fence lines, especially on the northern side of the site.</p> <p>Waders including oystercatcher, curlew, snipe, redshank and lapwing nest on the site: curlew are especially numerous. There is a common gull colony. Short-eared owl hunt over the area. Small birds nesting include skylark, meadow pipit, stonechat and songthrush.</p>	
<p>Special Habitats:</p> <p>Upland heath*. Blanket bog*.</p>	<p>Special Wildlife:</p> <p>Curlew*. Lapwing*. Snipe. Redshank. Skylark*. Songthrush*. Hunting short-eared owl.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Wideford Hill, St Ola (Site ref No: 246)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only. 2016

<b>Witter, Braebuster Burn and Hoy Lodge Marsh.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Hoy.
<b>Area:</b> c. 238.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 247.
<p><b>Site Description:</b></p> <p>An extensive area of hilly moorland, with several burns, the largest being the Braebuster Burn. The higher parts are dominated by dry heather moorland, with abundant bell heather. Lower areas have heather moorland as well, but it tends to be wetter and plants such as butterwort appear. Marshy areas with small pools occur, especially near the burns, and here are plants like ragged-robin and marsh marigold. Variety of plant life further increases where springs locally create more lime-rich conditions. Heath fragrant orchid, rare in Orkney, grows here. A burn on the eastern side of the Witter has willow scrub growing on its banks. There is grassland as well, some of which is rich in orchids, while near the coast the grass becomes more maritime in nature and full of sea pinks and spring squill. Plant life along the Braebuster Burn is rich and varied, with primroses, bird's-foot trefoil and hawkweeds. Oystercatcher, curlew, snipe and lapwing nest in the area along with abundant skylark and meadow pipit. Great skuas are abundant. Breeding common gull, stonechat and wheatear are also present. Dragonflies and damselflies are attracted to breed in the pools.</p> <p>The Hoy Lodge Marsh area is low-lying and very wet with small streams running through it and calcium-rich springs. It has mixture of heather and other moorland plants along with flowers such as early marsh orchid, bogbean and water mint, sedges and rushes. Unusually, there is a stand of common club-rush.</p> <p>The area is attractive to waders including oystercatcher, lapwing, redshank and curlew and has a large common gull colony.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b></p> <p>Upland heath*.  Lowland fens*.  Upland flushes, fens and swamps*.  Lowland calcareous grassland*.  Treeless woodland and dales.  Maritime cliff and slope*.  Maritime grassland.  Maritime heath.  Crowberry heath.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b></p> <p>Curlew*.  Skylark*.  Lapwing*.  Snipe.  Redshank.  Great skua.  Common hawkmer dragonfly.  Large red damselfly.  Heath fragrant orchid.  Limestone bedstraw.  Field gentian*.  Grey willow.  Common club-rush.  Lesser bearded stonewort*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	

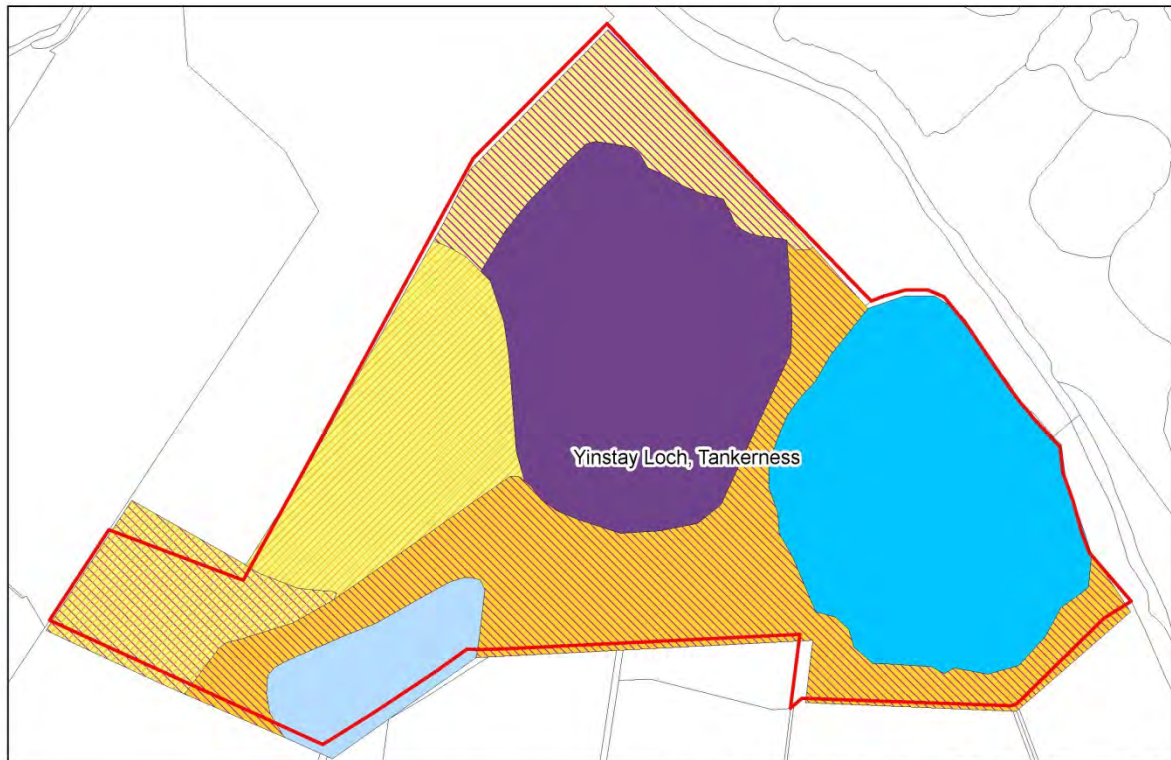


**Witter, Braebuster Burn and Hoy Lodge Marsh (Site ref No: 247)**

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Orkney Islands Council 100021921. For reference purposes only. 2018



<b>Yinstay Loch.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Tankerness.
<b>Area:</b> c. 7 hectares.	<b>Site Reference Number:</b> 248.
<p><b>Site Description:</b>  This site is a shallow 'ayre' loch with adjacent worked-out basin of peat. Peat cutting has long ceased and the vegetation of central part of the bog has recovered well, to become moorland dominated by heather and crowberry with sphagnum mosses. Sloping ground and shallow peat on the north and west sides of the basin support heather/crowberry and grassland mosaics, presumably former moorland modified by grazing. Adjacent to the site on its southwest side is an area of marshy grassland with rushes and swamp.</p> <p>The area has not yet been surveyed for nesting birds, but the habitats can be expected to attract breeding waders like curlew, snipe and lapwing, and possibly others.</p>	
<p><b>Special Habitats:</b>  Upland heath*.  Crowberry heath.  Basin bog.  Eutrophic standing water*.</p>	<p><b>Special Wildlife:</b>  Breeding waders*.</p>
<p>* Nationally important habitats and species.</p>	



Yinstay Loch, Tankerness (Site ref No: 248)

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
Orkney Islands Council 100021621. For reference purposes only 2012