

North Highland Area Management Plan Catchment Summaries

There is a catchment summary for each catchment in the North Highland advisory group area. These give information on the current situation (classification and pressures) and action . A guide to these catchment summaries and a glossary of terms is available. Further information on individual water bodies within each catchment can be found on the river basin management planning interactive map – www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx

The North Highland catchment summaries are contained with 5 documents:

- Caithness and Sutherland
- Moray Firth – Dornoch to Inverness
- Ness
- Moray Firth – Nairn to Lossiemouth
- Ground Water Bodies

This document includes catchment summaries for **ground water bodies**:-

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Catchment	Current situation	Actions for improvement
<p>Groundwaters</p>	<p>There are 45 groundwater bodies in North Highland 43 of which are at good status.</p> <p>All 45 are at good status for quality (chemical tests); Bower Valley Sand and Gravel, North coast bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Wick Valley Sand and Gravel, Thurso bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Wick bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Achairn Valley Sand and Gravel, Dorback Valley Sand and Gravel, Affric bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Peffery Valley Sand and Gravel, Beauly bedrock and localised sand and gravel, Beauly Coastal Sand and Gravel, Naver Valley Sand and Gravel, Strathfleet bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Lower Ness Valley bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Upper Findhorn Sand and Gravel, Helmsdale bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Helmsdale Sand and Gravel Upper Brora Valley Sand and Gravel, Kyle of Sutherland South bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Kyle of Sutherland San and Gravel, Conon Valley Sand and Gravel, Alness Coastal Sand and Gravel, Nigg Bay Coastal Sand and Gravel, Black Isle bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Dingwall bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Invergordon bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Dornoch bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Brora bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Lower Brora Valley Sand and Gravel, Elgin bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Forres bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Nairn bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Inverness coastal Sand and Gravel, Upper Black Burn Sand and Gravel, Upper Lossie Valley Sand and Gravel, Nairn Valley Sand and gravel, Cawdor Sand and Gravel, Newlands of Fleenas Sand and Gravel, Findhorn bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Beauly Valley Sand and Gravel, Loch Ness bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers, Kirkhill Coastal Sand and Gravel, Durness Eriboll and Tongue, Kyle of Sutherland North, Conon.</p> <p>Two ground water bodies are at poor status in terms of quantity (amount of water) due the impact of ground water abstraction on river levels; Elgin bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers and Conon Valley sand and gravels.</p> <p>All ground waters In North Highland are Drinking Water Protected Areas. However, the reason the two ground waters are poor status (localised abstraction) has no impact on the provision of drinking water and all the Drinking Water Protected areas are reaching their required standards with respect to the Water Framework Directive.</p>	<p>In terms of quantity, all 45 groundwater bodies in North Highland are anticipated to be at good ecological status by 2027 with controlled abstraction of water from both Elgin bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers and Conon Valley sand and gravels.</p>