

## West Highland Area Management Plan Catchment Summaries

There is a catchment summary for each catchment for West Highland. These give information on the current situation and action. A guide to these catchment summaries and a glossary of terms is available. Further information on the 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](http://www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx)

The West Highland catchment summaries have been split into 5 documents:

- Coastal waterbodies
- Groundwaters
- West Highland mainland
- Western Isles

This is the coastal water bodies catchment summary.

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Catchment	Current situation	Actions for improvement
<b>Coastal water bodies</b>	<p>West Highland has 203 coastal water bodies. Of these, 124 are at high ecological status and 79 are good ecological status.</p> <p>Loch a Siar Directive reached only a maximum status of good for the Invasive non native species part of the Water Framework classification, due to the presence of Common cordgrass.</p> <p><b>Protected Areas</b></p> <p>The coastal water bodies include the following protected areas, all of which are all meeting their required standards with respect to the Water Framework Directive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Areas Of Conservation; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ascrib, Isay and Dunvegan (for common seals)</li> <li>• Cape Wrath (for vegetated seacliffs)</li> <li>• Kinloch and Kyleakin Hills (for blanket bog, otter and wet heathland with cross leaved heath)</li> <li>• Loch Laxford (for reefs, shallow inlets and bays)</li> <li>• Loch nam Madadh (for intertidal mud and sandflats, lagoons, otter, reefs, shallow inlet and bays, subtidal sandbanks)</li> <li>• Loch Roag Lagoons (for marine lagoons)</li> <li>• Lochs Duich, Long and Alsh Reefs (for reefs)</li> <li>• Monach Islands (dune grassland, grey seal, machair, shifting dunes with Marram)</li> <li>• North Rona (for grey seal, reefs, sea caves, vegetated seacliffs)</li> <li>• North Uist Machair (for range of coastal habitats, open water and slender naiad)</li> <li>• Obain Loch Euphoirt (marine lagoons)</li> <li>• Oldshoremore and Sandwood (dune grassland, machair, shifting dunes with marram)</li> <li>• Rigg – Bile (for vegetated sea cliffs)</li> <li>• Rum (for acid peat-stained lakes and ponds, base-rich fens blanket bog, clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels)</li> <li>• St. Kilda (for reefs, sea caves, vegetated seacliffs)</li> <li>• Tràigh na Berie (for Machair)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Protected areas</b></p> <p>The following shellfish waters are predicted to achieve their required standards with respect to the Water Framework Directive by 2027; Ardtoe and Loch Ceann Traigh, Loch Kishorn (North West), Loch Snizort (Skye), Upper Loch Torridon, Loch Caroy, Loch Harport.</p> <p>In most cases the reasons for the current shellfish waters failures are not clear. Further research, including a review of the Food Standards Agency Sanitary Surveys and possibly source tracking studies, is required to establish the pressures on these protected areas and therefore the measures required to improve and achieve the required standards with respect to the Water Framework Directive. This work will be done as part of the diffuse pollution work described in the West Highland area management plan summary and will focus on the following catchments, which discharge into these shellfish waters: Barra coastal, Isle of Skye coastal, Lewis and Harris coastal, Minch coastal, North Uist coastal, South Uist Coastal, Sounds coastal, Torridon coastal and Ardnamurchan coastal.</p>

Catchment	Current situation	Actions for improvement
<p><b>Coastal water bodies continued</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Protection Areas:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canna and Sanday (for breeding seabird assemblage, guillemot, herring gull, kittiwake, puffin and shag)</li> <li>• Cape Wrath (for breeding seabird assemblage, Fulmar, Guillemot, Kittiwake, Puffin, Razorbill)</li> <li>• Flannan Isles (breeding bird assemblage, breeding fulmar, guillemot, kittiwake, Leaches petrol, Puffin, Razorbill)</li> <li>• Handa Island (for breeding seabird assemblage, Fulmar, Great Skua, Guillemot, Kittiwake, Razorbill)</li> <li>• Mingulay and Berneray (for breeding seabird assemblage, fulmar, guillemot, kittiwake, puffin, razorbill, shag)</li> <li>• Mointeach Scadabhaigh (for breeding black throated diver and red throated diver)</li> <li>• Monach Islands (for breeding common tern and little tern, non breeding Greenland Barnacle goose)</li> <li>• North Rona and Sula Sgeir (for breeding seabird assemblage, Fulmar, Gannet, Great Black Baked gull, Guillemot, Kittiwake, Leach's Petrel, Puffin, Razorbill, Storm Petrel.</li> <li>• North Uist Machair and Islands (for breeding Concrake, Dunlin, Oyster-catcher, Redshank, Ringed Plover and non-breeding Greenland Barnacle goose, Purple sandpiper, Ringed Plover and Turnstone)</li> <li>• Priest Island (for breeding Storm Petrel)</li> <li>• Rum (for breeding seabird assemblage, guillemots, kittiwakes, Manx shearwater, red-throated diver)</li> <li>• Shiant Isles (for breeding bird assemblage, Fulmar, Greenland Barnacle goose, Guillemot, Kittiwake, Razorbill, Puffin, Shag)</li> <li>• South Uist Machair and Lochs (for breeding corncrake, dunlin, little tern, oyster catcher, redshank, ring plover (and non breeding), sanderling)</li> <li>• St Kilda (for breeding seabird assemblage, Fulmar, Gannet, Great Skua, Kittiwakes, Guillemot, Leach's petrel, Manx Shearwater, Puffin and Razorbill).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Achmelvich Bathing Water</li> </ul>	

Catchment	Current situation	Actions for improvement
<b>Coastal water bodies continued</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shellfish Waters; Ardtoe and Loch Ceann Traigh, Black Islands (Kyle), Broadford Bay and Kyle Area, Cais - bhaigh (Enard Bay), Inner Loch Leurbost, Outer Loch Leurbost, Little Loch Broom, Loch Ainort, Loch Eishort, Loch Ewe, Loch Eynort, Loch Glendhu, Loch Inchard, Loch Laxford (North West), Loch Nevis, Loch Roag, Loch Sligachan.</li> </ul> <p>The following protected areas are not currently meeting their required standards with respect to the Water Framework Directive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shellfish Waters; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loch Kishorn (North West)</li> <li>• Loch Snizort (Skye)</li> <li>• Upper Loch Torridon</li> <li>• Loch Caroy</li> <li>• Loch Harport</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Although the following shellfish waters achieved their required standards with respect to the Water Framework Directive in 2008, they did not do so for the three year combined data assessment (2006-2008). There is therefore low confidence that they will achieve compliance without further measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loch Eynort</li> <li>• Inner Loch Leurbost</li> <li>• Outer Loch Leurbost</li> </ul> <p>Special Areas of Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inverpolly (designated for acid peat-stained lakes and ponds, Blanket Bog, Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels, Depressions on peat substrates, Fresh Water Pearl mussel, Otter) is unfavourable for the freshwater pearl mussel feature)</li> <li>• North Harris (designated for peat-stained lakes, Atlantic salmon, blanket bog, clear water lochs, fresh water pearl mussels) is unfavourable for freshwater pearl mussel feature)</li> <li>• North Uist Machair and Islands (designated for breeding Corncrake, Dunlin, Oystercatcher, Redshank, Ringed Plover and non-breeding Greenland Barnacle goose, Purple sandpiper, Ringed Plover and Turnstone) is unfavourable for the open water and slender naiad features.</li> </ul>	