



John Muir Pollinator Way Report: East Dunbartonshire

May 2016

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Saving the small things that run the planet

Summary

The John Muir Way, opened in 2014, stretches 134 miles through nine local authority areas, including East Dunbartonshire.

This B-lines project, the first in Scotland, has identified new opportunities for grassland habitat creation, enhancement and management along the route of the John Muir Way as it passes through East Dunbartonshire as well as 1.86 miles either side of this. Through this mapping exercise a number of sites have been identified including 25 schools and nurseries; 5 care homes; 21 places of worship and cemeteries; 2 historic landmarks and buildings; and 1 train station. Additionally, 4 golf courses (141.2 ha), 44 public parks and play spaces (116.88 ha) and one country park (251.74 ha) were identified and mapped.

There are a number of sites within this project that have nature conservation designations, including 45 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (2,999.3 ha), 2 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (36.57 ha) and 2 Local Nature Reserves (60.97 ha). A further 5 sites have previously been identified as having an Open Mosaic of Habitat on Previously Developed Land and cover a total area of 13.71 ha.

By mapping new opportunities this will aid in the future development of projects that will provide real benefits to our declining populations of pollinating insects of bees, wasps, hoverflies and butterflies as well as other wildlife that these habitats support.

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1. Introduction

The route of the John Muir Way stretches 134 miles (215 kilometres (km)) from Helensburgh in the west to Dunbar on the east coast (Figure 1). This walking and cycling route was opened in 2014 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of John Muir's death.



Figure 1. Route of the John Muir Way from Helensburgh in the west to Dunbar on the east coast.

During its 134 miles stretch, the John Muir Way passes through nine different local authority areas and goes through and close to several towns, including Helensburgh, Balloch, Lennoxton, Kirkintilloch, Falkirk, Edinburgh and Dunbar. This walking and cycling route passes through a varied landscape with a wide range of habitats including agriculture, coastland, parkland, housing as well as sites with various conservation designations. Many of these sites are important for a range of wildlife and plant species and allow the movement and mixing of species along and out with the route.

The John Muir Way enters East Dunbartonshire from a refurbished railway just east of Strathblane in Stirlingshire. The route passes through Lennoxton and then to Milton of Campsie and down to Kirkintilloch where it joins the Forth and Clyde canal before going on into North Lanarkshire. In total the John Muir Way is about 10 miles long through East Dunbartonshire.

1.1 B-lines

Since the 1940's, Britain has lost over 97% of its species-rich grassland to agriculture, housing developments and industry. B-Lines are an imaginative solution to the problem of the loss in wildflower meadows and the subsequent decline of pollinating insects. The B-Lines are a series of 'insect pathways' along which Buglife aims to create and restore at least 150,000 hectares (ha) of wildflower-rich habitat stepping stones across the UK. They link existing wildlife areas together, creating a network that will weave across the British landscape. This will provide large areas of brand new habitat benefiting bees and butterflies as well as a host of other wildlife.

B-Lines bring a range of benefits to wildlife, people and agriculture, including helping to conserve our native pollinators and a range of other wildlife; contributing towards the 2020 Biodiversity targets; helping our wildlife respond to climate change by making it easier for them to move around; increasing the number of insect pollinators and the benefits these bring to our farming sector (pollination being an important 'ecosystem service'); bringing nature to people; and giving opportunities for everyone to play their part and help create the B-Lines network.

Making the B-lines happen will take time and will need farmers, land owners, wildlife organisations, businesses, local authorities and the general public to work together to create flower-rich grassland in the best locations.

'John Muir Pollinator Way' is the first B-lines project in Scotland. Through this study, this project has mapped opportunities for wildflower grassland creation, enhancement and management along the route of the John Muir Way as it passes through East Dunbartonshire. This B-lines map will include not only areas that are currently used as amenity grassland such as at public parks and in school grounds but also sites that have nature conservation designations and are currently managed for their important grassland habitats. By mapping these opportunities it identifies where current habitat is, how it can be better managed and where projects should focus to further benefit wildlife and communities in the future.

2. Method

Opportunities for the creation, enhancement and management of grassland meadows and other habitats important for pollinating insects and other invertebrates were mapped using an online Geographic Information System (QGIS) along the 10 mile route of the John Muir Way as it passes through East Dunbartonshire as well as 1.86 mile (3km) either side of this. This area covers a total 9,733 ha in land.

Potential opportunities on sites with no nature conservation designations were identified based on if they held grounds for habitat creation and enhancement, these sites were then marked by a round circle and included high schools, primary schools, nurseries, care homes, places of worship, cemeteries, historic landmarks, historic buildings and train stations.

Scotland's Greenspace Map, available from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) provides information about the type and extent of greenspace in urban Scotland in towns and cities with a population of over 3,000. This map was compiled in 2011 from greenspace data provided by the 32 Scottish local authorities and categorises greenspace into 23 different open space types (for example, public parks, private gardens, play areas, semi-natural, community gardens and allotments). Using Scotland's Greenspace Map, public parks, play spaces and golf courses were identified and mapped on the B-lines using polygons to calculate the area of each site; further information on the location and names of public parks and play spaces was obtained from several of the local authority websites. Additional areas of amenity grassland identified on Scotland's Greenspace Map, including residential, business and transport were not mapped due to the number of sites and complexity in mapping them.

Polygons of designated country parks with information on the size of each site were also added to this opportunity map after being downloaded from the SNH website.

Sites designated for nature conservation within this project were downloaded from the SNH website and mapped using polygons so that the size of the area could be calculated for each site; this included Local Nature Reserves (LNR) and Sites of Special Scientific interest (SSSI). Information on Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) was obtained by asking the biodiversity officers from East Dunbartonshire who was able to provide Shapefiles and site information.

In 2013, Buglife identified sites on Scotland's vacant and derelict land register with the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) priority habitat 'Open Mosaic of Habitat of Previously Developed Land' (OMHPDL) and the shapefile which included the polygons for these sites was uploaded onto this B-lines opportunity map (Macadam *et al.* 2013).

3. Results

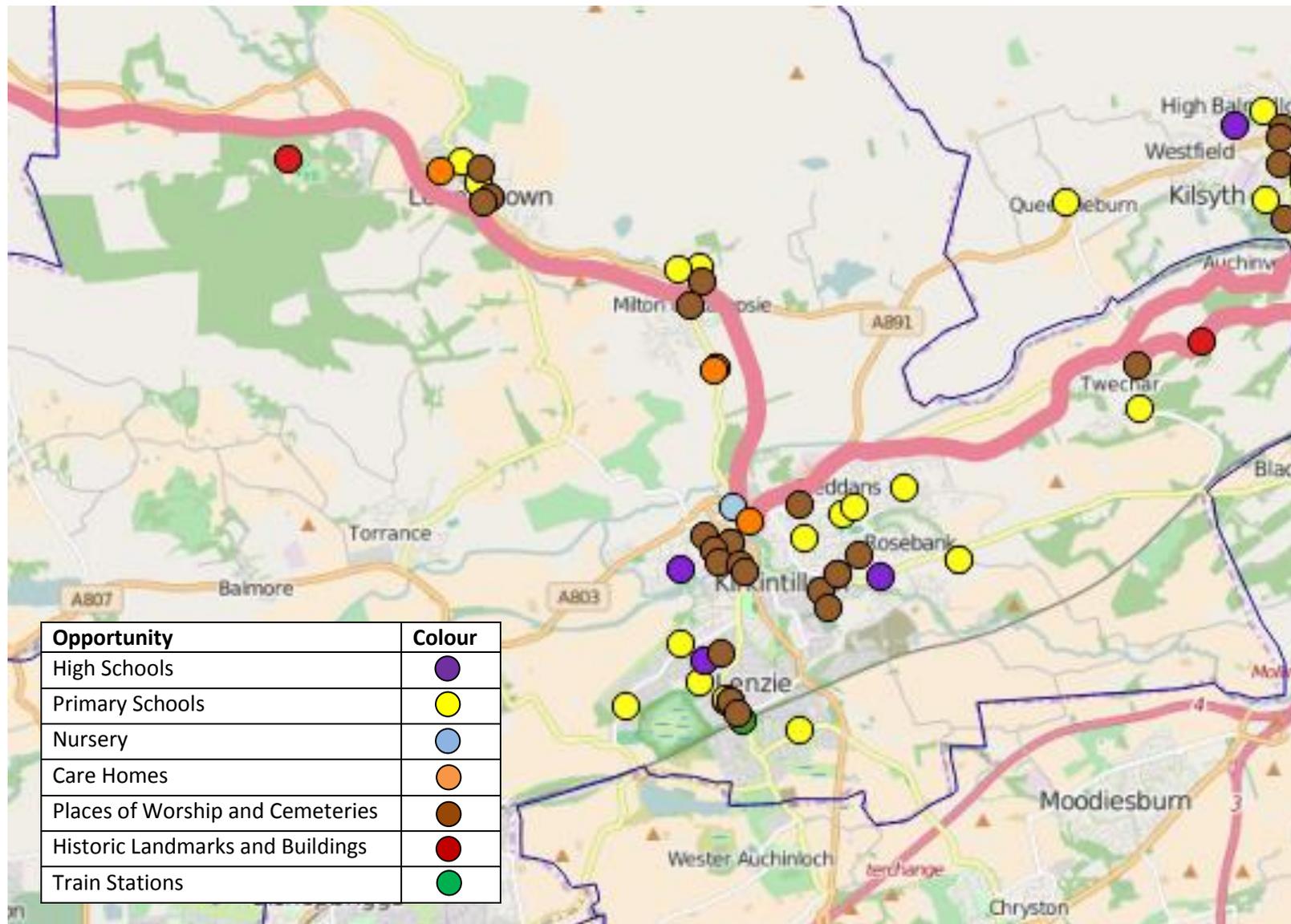
A full list of opportunities identified can be found in Appendix 1.

A total of 25 schools and nurseries were identified and this includes 3 high schools, 17 primary schools and 5 nurseries (Table 1; Map 1). At least 4 primary schools have pupils who live in the 20% most deprived areas (Appendix 1). Additionally, 25 schools and nurseries (1 high school, 4 primary schools and 1 nursery) are registered with the RHS School Gardening Scheme (Appendix 1). A further 5 care homes along with 2 historic landmarks and buildings were also identified (Table 1; Map 1). There are a total of 21 places of worship and cemeteries in the project area along with 1 train station (Table 1; Map 1).

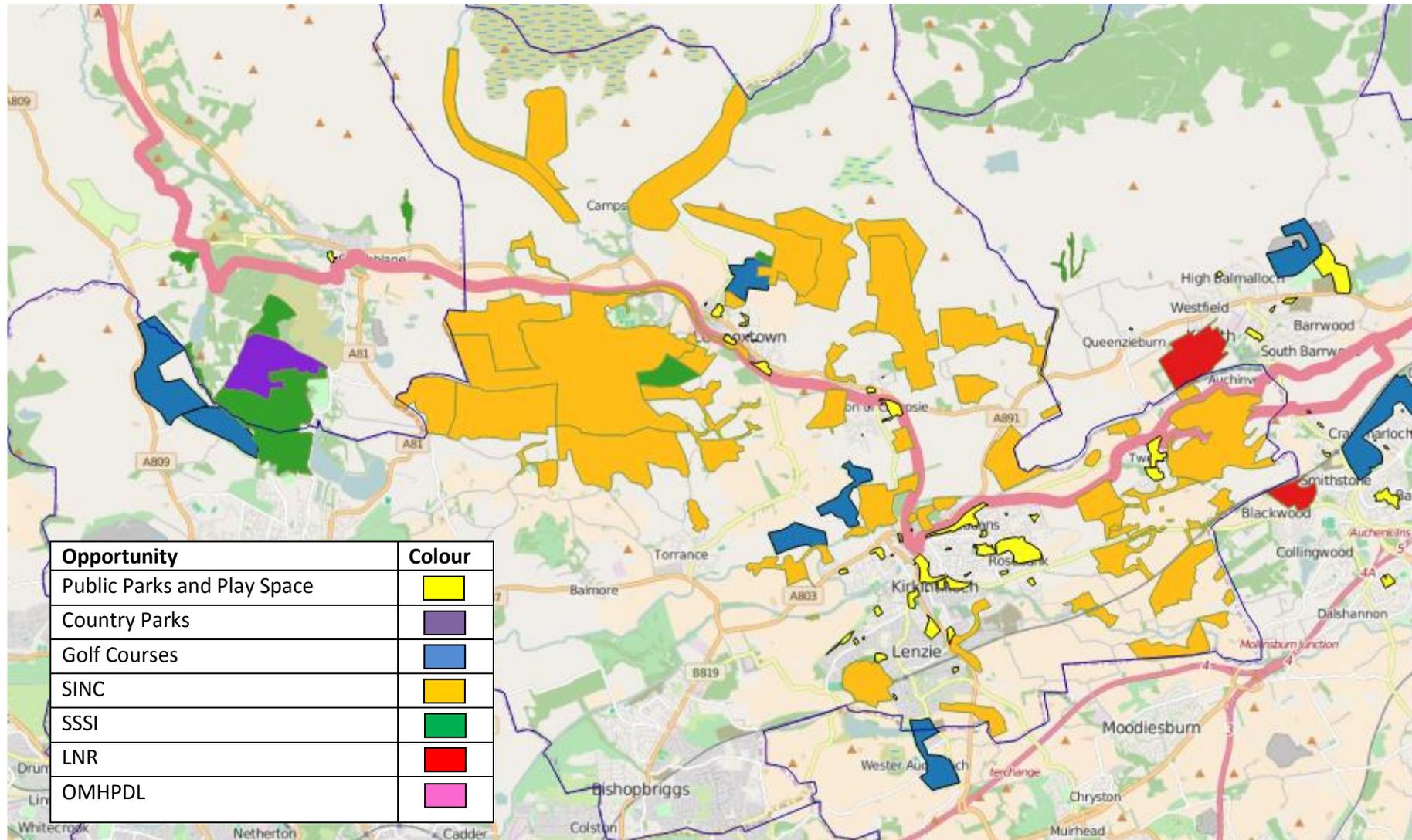
There are 4 golf courses within the project area that cover a total of 141.2 ha (Table 1; Map 2). There are at least 44 public parks and play spaces that cover 116.88 ha of ground that have a variety of habitats from woodland, ponds and amenity grassland, additionally there is one designated Country Park that is 251.74 ha (Table 1; Map 2). There are 45 LNCS (2,999.3 ha), 2 SSSI (36.57 ha) and 2 LNR (60.97) within the project area (Table 1; Map 2). There are a further 5 sites with OMHPDL that cover a total of 13.71 ha (Table 1; Map 2).

Table 3. Total number of opportunities identified in East Dunbartonshire for each category mapped including the size of the area in for sites designated for conservation along with public parks, country parks and golf courses.

Opportunity	Total number	Total Area (ha)
High Schools	49	-
Primary Schools	169	-
Nursery	69	-
Care Homes	103	-
Places of Worship and Cemeteries	382	-
Historic Landmarks and Buildings	39	-
Train Stations	28	-
Golf Course	4	141.2
Public Park	44	116.88
Country Park	1	251.74
SSSI	2	36.57
LNR	2	60.97
SINC	45	2,999.3
OMHPDL	5	13.71



Map 1. Opportunities of non-designated sites identified in East Dunbartonshire.



Map 2. Opportunities of sites designated for conservation along with public parks and golf courses identified in East Dunbartonshire.

4. Discussion

The John Muir Way is 134 miles long and has a varied landscape, passing through nine different local authority areas, various towns and cities as well as rural habitats. The 9,733 ha of land covered by this project in East Dunbartonshire has identified various opportunities for grassland habitat creation, enhancement and management within the grounds of schools, golf courses and public parks. Each of these potential opportunities differ in the communities involved and the habitats present but all have the potential to significantly increase and improve habitat for pollinating insects and other wildlife across the heartland of Scotland.

4.1 Schools

A total of 25 schools and nurseries were identified within this projects area and includes three high schools, 17 primary schools and five nurseries. Most schools and a majority of the nurseries have outdoor grounds that may include areas of amenity grassland as playing fields that are used by school children during breaks and during physical education (PE) lessons. Alongside these large areas of amenity ground, schools often have other outdoor areas that are may be used as a school garden or are left as areas of additional amenity grassland. It is these areas that can be enhanced for wildlife by creating biodiverse school gardens or changing the management to reduce the cutting of the area. This would not only benefit pollinating insects and other wildlife but also the school children who could help create the habitats and use them for learning and play. Wildflower meadows within the school grounds could be created with the help of the school children and parents and be managed with the help of the local authority if required.

To further benefit pollinating insects such as solitary bees, school children could be encouraged to create homes for them in wood working class. These can be installed in south facing and warm areas around the school and will create homes for wood nesting solitary bees and other invertebrates.

Several of the schools are registered with the RHS School Gardening Scheme (three high schools, four primary schools and one nursery) which aims to inspire and support schools to provide children with gardening opportunities to enhance their skills, outdoor learning and boost their development.

All of the schools and many of the nurseries identified are registered as an Eco-school, many of which have various awards associated with this. Eco-Schools are an international initiative designed to encourage whole-school community action on 'Learning for Sustainability'. This environmental management tool is a learning resource and a recognised award scheme which empowers children and young people to take action towards an economically, socially and environmentally just world. The Eco-Schools programme is managed in Scotland by Keep Scotland Beautiful.

Other school initiatives that aim to get children out of the classroom and either into their local community or developing their school grounds include Polli:nation a UK wide initiative supporting pupils from 260 schools to turn their school grounds and other areas within their local communities into pollinator friendly habitats. Unfortunately, none of the schools selected in Scotland are within this project's area although they will still be able to get involved in this initiative.

Priority Project 6 through Scotland's Biodiversity- a route map to 2020, aims to increase secondary and primary schools access to greenspace and nature for outdoor learning as part of the wider 'Learning for Sustainability' agenda. Through this, it aims to work with 100 schools by 2020 that have pupils who live in the 20% most deprived areas. Of the schools identified, only four primaries have pupils who live in the 20% most deprived areas within the local authority areas West and East Dunbartonshire, North Lanarkshire, Falkirk and Edinburgh. By focusing to work with several of these

schools identified through this project will significantly increase the health and well-being of school pupils as well as people in the wider community.

There is a lot of scope for schools to get involved with enhancing their grounds for wildlife and for the pupils through the RHS School gardening scheme and Keep Scotland's Beautiful Eco-schools as well as other initiatives. It may be that further support is required to encourage more schools to actively get involved for the benefit of the school children and for declining insect pollinator populations.

4.2 Care Homes

There are five care and residential homes that were identified in the project area. It is well documented of the health and well-being benefits for people with local and easy access to wildlife as well as the increase in recovery time of patients in care homes.

It is important to provide opportunities for people in care and nursing homes and hospices to get involved in wildlife and gardening projects in their home grounds. Many of these homes often have grounds that residents can walk around either on their own or with visitors. By enhancing these areas for wildlife through the installation of planters and green walls planted with native wildflowers they will provide colour attracting life to the gardens that will make a happier and healthier place for the residents to live and enhance their experiences and quality of life (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Example of a green wall that holds a variety of plants, including wildflowers. This particular green wall also has a variety of homes for insects and other bugs.

4.3 Places of Worship and Cemeteries

There are at least 21 places of worship and cemeteries identified within this project. At least one is described as a cemetery whilst many of the places of worship also include burial grounds.

Many cemeteries and churchyards are well known to be important habitats for a range of wildlife including bats, birds and foxes as they are often less intensively managed as other urban green spaces. A range of habitats are often found at these sites including mature and veteran trees, old walls, wildflowers, bare ground and shrubs. By creating habitat and enhancing areas already present within the grounds this will add colour and life to the churchyards and cemeteries that will not only improve health and well-being of visitors but will provide important stepping stones for wildlife through an area.

Not all the churches identified have grounds that could be enhanced or managed but they can help to inspire local communities to actively get involved with community led projects that could benefit the local area away from the church. It is important to identify which of these churches have access to an outdoor space and what habitats are currently present within these that could be enhanced or better managed for wildlife. This in itself could be a project that engages with communities across Scotland with their local place of worship.

4.4 Historic Landmarks and Buildings

There are two historic landmarks and buildings in the project area, Bar Hill Fort on the Antonine Wall that is owned and managed by Historic Environment Scotland and Lennox Castle. Both of these sites are now tourist attractions which attract thousands of visitors a year.

Due to their historic value it is unlikely that many of these landmarks could be influenced with creating large wildflower meadow areas and other habitat, especially in sensitive areas (for example along the Antonine Wall), but it may be that small projects could influence management within small areas of a site for the benefit of pollinating insects and other wildlife, especially at sites that are known for their gardens. This could be through the installation of solitary bee homes for wood nesting species and the creation of small wildflower areas within the gardens themselves.

4.5 Train Stations

Only Lenzie train station is within the project area that is used by hundreds of people every day travelling between Edinburgh, Glasgow and Stirling. Although this station doesn't have much ground it does use planters that are planted with garden plants. By planting wildflowers within the planters or surrounding grounds this will help reduce costs of buying seasonal garden plants and reduce maintenance time. Green walls shown in Figure 2 could be placed alongside walls that are outside to further enhance the station for pollinating insects that would also provide colour and life benefitting passengers using the stations.

4.6 Golf Courses

There are four golf courses within the project area that cover a total of 141.2 ha of ground.

Golf courses are well known to act as important areas for wildlife, especially in an urban area due to the various habitats present, such as woodland, hedgerows, rough grassland, ponds, ditches and heathland. Golf courses cover 1% of land in the United Kingdom. Generally between 40 – 60% of a golf course is out of play representing a significant land resource that can potentially be made available for wildlife protection and nature conservation. Many golf clubs are recognising that a naturalistic golf course environment which is attractive for wildlife is also generally more attractive to golfers.

Buglife's current meadow creation project 'Fife's Buzzing', a three year project funded by Heritage Lottery Fund and Fife Environment Trust, has enhanced Dunnikier golf course in Kirkcaldy for biodiversity by planting native and diverse wildflower species into areas that are not in play and around ponds. These have helped create a healthier place for wildlife and for the people using the course as well as getting the local community and schools involved with habitat creation events through volunteer activities.

The Golf Environment (GEO) was founded to support the golfing industry, helping it to deliver and be recognized for a positive impact for the people and nature that it touches, now and in the future. They are currently developing an awards system that encourages golf courses around the world to create areas within their grounds to further benefit wildlife. Through their system, individual golf

courses will be able to identify what they are currently doing that is benefitting local wildlife but also other activities that would provide further benefits. This could positively benefit not only pollinating insects with the planting of native species of wildflower within meadow areas that are local to the golf course, but also aquatic invertebrates through the enhancement of ponds and wildlife such as Longhorn beetles that require dead wood for their lifecycle with the enhancement and creation of areas of dead wood.

4.7 Public Parks and Play Spaces

Scotland's Greenspace Map, available from SNH, was used to identify and map the location of public parks and play spaces across the project area. Scotland's Greenspace Map was compiled in 2011 from greenspace data provided by the 32 Scottish local authorities and categorises greenspace into 23 different open space types (for example, public parks, private gardens, play areas, semi-natural, community gardens and allotments). As some of this information is incomplete, such as the names of the parks, information was also obtained using local authority websites and other sources.

A total of 44 public parks and play spaces were identified covering a total of 116.88 ha. Many of these parks are well used by local communities and visitors every day for walking, cycling, running or playing.

Most parks have large areas of amenity grassland that is cut several times over a year and has very little benefits to biodiversity because of this. Through Buglife's Get Britain Buzzing campaign, we have been transforming mown grassland in parks into colourful wildflower areas for both people and wildlife to use and enjoy. In Scotland these projects have so far occurred out with the project area of the John Muir Pollinator Way in Glasgow, Perth and currently in Fife and North Lanarkshire. For example, just over half way through the three year 'Fife's Buzzing' project, Buglife has engaged with 1,057 people in the creation and enhancement of over 5 ha of wildflower meadow at 13 parks across Fife.

Through these projects we have recognised that it is important that if changing the management at parks and/or creating wildflower areas for wildlife that local communities are consulted before hand so they can decide on the best areas within their local park and the size of the area to be created and managed. It may be that all of a park is well used over the year by dog walkers and picnickers so only small edge areas could be enhanced. It is these small areas that could encourage the creation of larger areas once the public understand the change being undertaken in their local area.

Local authorities across Scotland and the rest of the UK are facing major cutbacks and are looking at ways to reduce spending. Several are known to be looking at reducing their grass cutting regime within certain areas of amenity grassland. This is great news for pollinating insects that will be able to find forage and nesting habitat within areas that are cut less regularly but not if these aren't properly managed by being cut and lift once a year. It is important that wildflower meadow areas are managed appropriately to prevent grasses becoming dominant and turning into rank grassland. Management of grasslands is site dependent and could involve grazing or cutting once a year and removing the cuttings. With a reduction in grass cutting, councils are realising that they don't have equipment to cut and lift once a year and so hire a contractor to do this, which can be an expense they can't afford within the current climate.

Several parks may have designated Friends of Groups that get involved with habitat creation and management projects within their parks so as to enhance their area and promote it to the wider community. Friends of groups could apply for funding to enhance their local park for biodiversity through the creation and management of grassland.

4.8 Country Parks

Of the 36 country parks across Scotland, only one is located within this project, Mugdock near Milngavie which is 251.74 ha and is shared between East Dunbartonshire and Stirlingshire. Within Mugdock is wide range of habitat present for both people and wildlife including woodland, grassland and ponds. This park has its own dedicated Countryside Ranger service that manages the park and engages with the local community and school children through events run all year round. Mugdock Country Park is only 10 minutes north of Glasgow and attracts huge numbers of visitors every year.

It is important that this country park follows management plans to ensure that it remains viable for wildlife and that the habitat is managed appropriately so that both people and animals can continue to use, visit and enjoy the park in the future.

4.9 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

There are 45 SINCs in this project area that cover a total of 2,999.3 ha of land.

SINCs are sites that have been designated as being important for nature conservation due to the habitats and wildlife that are present. For sites identified through this project a range of habitats are present, including woodland, heathland, reservoirs, ponds, ditches and grassland meadows. It is important that management plans are written for each site and that the correct regime is in place to ensure long-term survival of the site and its habitats for the future protection of wildlife. As it was very difficult to find information about individual sites it is assumed that management plans, if there are any are not accessible to the public or have yet to be completed.

4.10 Site of Special Scientific Interest

SSSI are those areas of land and water (to the seaward limits of local authority areas) that are considered to best represent our natural heritage, due to their species diversity and habitats, rocks and landforms present as well as a combinations of these features. SSSIs are protected by law and it is an offence for any person to intentionally or recklessly damage them. SSSI are designated by SNH under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

There are over 1,425 SSSIs across Scotland, of which only two are within this project and cover a total of 36.57 ha. Most SSSIs are in private ownership and SNH works closely with their owners and managers to ensure appropriate management of the sites natural features and to ensure that decision-makers, land managers, their agents and advisors, as well as local authorities and other public bodies, are aware of SSSIs when considering changes in land-use or other activities which might affect them.

Any Scottish public body proposing to carry out an operation that may affect an SSSI must notify SNH before starting. SNH provides each SSSI owner and occupier with a site management statement that describes the interest of the site and explains the management needed to conserve its protected natural features. For those sites which are known for their grasslands it is important that these management plans are stuck to and that the meadows are appropriately managed to ensure long-term survival of the site for their biological features.

4.11 Local Nature Reserves

There are 72 designated LNRs across Scotland that provides wild spaces where some of our rare species as well as our common species can thrive. LNRs offer a more natural environment than parks and gardens, but are still readily accessible to, and for a wide range of people.

There are two LNRs within this projects that cover an area of 60.97 ha, Lenzie Moss and a former colliery Merklands. Merklands was designated as a LNR due to its OMHPDL that includes grassland

habitat. All LNRs should have management plans that are strictly followed to protect the site for the habitats that it supports along with the wildlife that depends on this.

4.12 Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land

OMHPDL is a UKBAP priority habitat as its mosaic of habitats provides homes for a number of wildlife species and allows a natural process of succession to occur which is often limited in the over-managed countryside. Derelict sites often have areas of bare ground, early successional communities, grasslands, wetland, scrub depending on how long the site has been abandoned, soil conditions and local climate.

In 2013, a report by Macadam *et al.* remotely assessed sites on Scotland's vacant and derelict land register for OMHPDL using Google Earth maps. Of the 4,118 sites on the 2011 register, 586 were selected as potentially having OMHPDL and should be ground truthed and this amounted to over 5,600 ha of land. Of this total, five lie within this project area and are only 13.71 ha in total. Most of the sites with OMHPDL appear to have areas of bare ground and grassland on site. Ground truthing these sites would help to identify if the site has the UKBAP priority habitat OMHPDL and whether management is required to ensure long-term viability of the site.

Brownfields with OMHPDL are known to be important for wildlife due to a lack of management and low nutrients in the soil that often creates a mosaic of habitats. Many rare and scarce species have been recorded at brownfield sites, often as many that are associated with ancient woodlands. Due to natural succession, many of these sites have a limited lifespan but as sites are lost to development, new sites are added that allow succession to start again.

4.13 Other Opportunities

During the mapping of opportunities for this B-lines project, other areas were recognised as being possibilities but were not mapped due to a lack of information, the number of these sites as well as the complexity of mapping them. This includes areas of amenity grassland identified on Scotland's Greenspace Map, including amenity sites recognised as residential, business and for transport. These areas of amenity grassland include road verges through our urban areas as well as regularly mown areas of amenity that are not classified as parks or play spaces but can often be large in size. All of these areas of amenity are opportunities for creating habitat for pollinators across an urban area that will allow the moving and mixing of individuals and species across these areas with more natural areas of habitat.

As well as passing through urban areas, the John Muir Way also passes through agricultural areas which were not mapped due to a lack of information on the location and use of fields. By creating wildflower strips and planting hedges along field edges this will create habitat corridors for pollinating insects and other wildlife allowing them to pass through agricultural areas safely to other areas and this will also help with the mixing of individuals and species. Wildflower strips provides additional benefits by increasing free pollination services of crops and attracting insects such as hoverflies, soldier beetles and lacewings who's larvae feed on pests such as aphids.

5. Conclusion

The 134 mile route of the John Muir Way passes through villages and towns in nine different local authority areas. Various organisations are currently involved with a variety of different projects along and around the route of the John Muir Way. For example, this includes Sustrans who are heavily involved with the cycle path network, Inner Forth Landscape Initiative which has a range of projects for biodiversity and people in Grangemouth and Bo'ness, Edinburgh Living Landscapes that are creating and managing grassland habitats within the City of Edinburgh as well as a number of

community groups within the villages and towns will manage local community gardens for both people and wildlife.

This project has identified a number of opportunities in East Dunbartonshire for creating important grassland habitat within parks, golf courses, school grounds and others for pollinating insects that will allow the movement and mixing of individuals and species across Scotland. This will also benefit other wildlife, particularly other invertebrates, and plants.

The villages and towns where habitat can be created within the opportunities identified include Lennoxton, Milton of Campsie and Kirkintilloch. Not only will these new habitats benefit wildlife but also local communities by getting people actively involved in projects and through the addition of colour and life to their areas that will benefit people's health and well-being.

This project has additionally highlighted a number of sites that have been designated for nature conservation that should be managed for the habitats present at their site. By being appropriately managed this will ensure long-term survival of these sites and habitats for wildlife and people to use and enjoy.

By mapping the opportunities at new identified sites and within currently managed sites through this project, this will aid in the future development of projects that will provide real benefits to our declining populations of pollinating insects of bees, wasps, hoverflies and butterflies as well as other wildlife that these habitats support.

References

Macadam, C., Bairner, S. and Cathrine, C. 2013. Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land: survey and recommendations for habitat planning and management in Scotland. Scottish Natural Heritage Commissioned Report No. 606.

Scottish Natural Heritage Greenspace Scotland Map, available at: <http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/advice-for-planners-and-developers/greenspace-and-outdoor-access/scotlands-greenspace/dataset/> last accessed 29th March 2016.

Scottish Natural Heritage Information Service, available at <http://www.snh.gov.uk/publications-data-and-research/snhi-information-service/> last accessed 29th March 2016.

Appendix 1

Opportunities within local communities and landscapes

High School

Kirkintilloch High School, Waterside Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3PA
Lenzie Academy, Myrtle Avenue, Lenzie, G66 4HR; RHS School Gardening registered
St. Ninians High School, Bellfield Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 1PT

Primary School

Campsie View School, Boghead Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 4DP
Craighead Primary School, Craighead Road, Milton of Campsie, G66 8DL; RHS School Gardening registered
Gartconner Primary School, Gartshore Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3TH
Harestanes Primary School, Mauchline Court, Kirkintilloch, G66 2SA
Hillhead Primary School, Newdyke Avenue, Kirkintilloch, G66 2DQ; listed as school with proportion of pupils who live in 20% most deprived areas
Holy Family Primary School, Boghead Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 4AT
Lairdsland Primary School, 70 Donaldson Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1XS
Lennoxton Primary School, School Lane, Lennoxton, G66 7LX; listed as school with proportion of pupils who live in 20% most deprived areas
Lenzie Moss Primary School, Moss Road, Lenzie, G66 4HW
Lenzie Primary School, Kirkintilloch Road, Lenzie, G66 4LD
Merkland School, Langmuir Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 2QF; listed as school with proportion of pupils who live in 20% most deprived areas
Millersneuk Primary School, Lindsaybeg Road, Lenzie, G66 5HZ
Oxgang Primary School, Lammermuir Road, G66 2AB; RHS School Gardening registered
St. Agatha's Primary School, Gartshore Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3TH; RHS School Gardening registered
St. Flannan's Primary School, Newdyke Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 2JW; listed as school with proportion of pupils who live in 20% most deprived areas
St. Machans Primary School, St Machan's Way, Lennoxton, G66 7HG
Twechar Primary School, Main Street, Twechar, G65 9TA; RHS School Gardening registered

Nursery

Gartconner Nursery, Gartshore Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3TH
Happy Days Nursery School Limited, 4-18 Ledgate, Kirkintilloch, G66 1PZ
Lennoxton Nursery, School house, Lennoxton, G66 7LX
Lenzie Nursery, 86 Kirkintilloch Road, Lenzie, G66 4LF
St. Mary's Nursery School, St. Mary's Parish Church, Cowgate, Kirkintilloch, G66 1JT; RHS School Gardening registered

Hospitals and Care Homes

Birdston Day Care Centre, Lodge House Lilyburn Court, 100 Birdston Road, Milton of Campsie, G66 8BY
Birdston Nursing Home, Lodge House Lilyburn Court, 100 Birdston Road, Milton of Campsie, G66 8BY
Campsie View Care Home, Canal Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1QY
Lilyburn Care Home, Birdston Road, Milton of Campsie, G66 8BY
Whitefield Lodge Care Centre, 25 Service Street, Lennoxton, G66 7JW

Places of Worship and Cemeteries

Auld Aisle Cemetery House, Old Aisle Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3HH
Campsie Parish Church, 136 Main Street, Lennoxton, G66 7DF
Cemetery, 1 Quarry Lane, Lennoxton, G66 7HB
Church Carnview Road, 18 Cairnview Road, Milton of Campsie, G66 8BL,
Church of the Nazarene, Main St, Twechar, G65 9QE
Ebenezer Hall, 90 Townhead, Kirkintilloch, G66 1NZ
Holy Family and St. Ninians Roman Catholic Church, 20 Union Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1DH
Kirkintilloch Baptist Church, 11B Shamrock Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1NR
Lenzie Old Parish Church Hall, A Garngaber Avenue, Kirkintilloch, G66 4LJ
Lenzie Old Parish, 5 Moncrieff Avenue, Kirkintilloch, G66 4NL
Lenzie Union Parish Church, 5 Moncrieff Avenue, Kirkintilloch, G66 4NL
Milton of Campsie Parish Church, 5 Antermony Road, Milton of Campsie, G66 8DB
Park Centre, 45 Kerr Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1LF
Proper Old School, 32 Briar Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3SA
Riverside Gospel Church, Redbrae Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 2AB
Saint Cyprian's, 6 Beech Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 4HL
Sanit Mary's Parish Church, 141 Cowgate, Kirkintilloch, G66 1JT
St Columbas Parish, 1 Old Aisle Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3HQ
St. David's Memorial Park Church, 33 Alexandra Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1HE
St. Flannans Roman Catholic Church, 79 Hillhead Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 2HY
St. Machans Church Hall, Chapel House, Chapel Street, Lennoxton, G66 7DE

Historic Landmarks and Buildings

Antonine Wall: Bar Hill Fort, Twechar; owned and managed by Historic Environment Scotland
Lennox Castle, Lennoxton, G66 7LP

Train stations

Lenzie Station, *Station Road, Lenzie*, G66 4UA

Golf course

Campsie Golf Club, Crow Road, Lennoxton, G66 7HX
Hayston Golf Club, Campsie Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 1RN
Kirkintilloch Golf Club, Campsie Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 1RN
Lenzie Golf Club, 19 Crosshill Road, Lenzie, G66 5DA

Public Parks and Play Spaces

Adamslie Park, 37 Glasgow Road, Kirkintilloch, G66, grid reference NS 64457 73738
Alexandra Road, 10 Alexandra Park, Kirkintilloch, G66 5BH, grid reference NS 65294 71563
Alloway Grove Play Park, 35 Alloway Grove, Kirkintilloch, G66 2RD, grid reference NS 66743 74569
Bencloch Road Park, 2 Stirling Place, Lennoxton, G66 7DX, grid reference NS 63078 77667
Bolton Terrace Park, 2 Bolton Terrace, Lennoxton, G66 7EF, grid reference NS 62995 77750
Carnview Road Play Park, 24 Cairnview Road, Milton of Campsie, G66, grid reference NS 65011 76476
Carrick Court Play Area, 13 Carrick Court, Kirkintilloch, G66 2RP, grid reference NS 67282 74607
Cypress Court Play Park, 3 Cypress Court, Kirkintilloch, G66 4BS, grid reference NS 64791 72583
Dromore Street Play Park, 44 Industry Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 3AG, grid reference NS 65886 73356
Easter Garngaber, 5 Easter Garngaber Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 5JH, grid reference NS 66316 71972
Eastside Park, High Street Industrial Estate, High Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1PU, grid reference NS 65454 74239
Ferguson Park, Milton Road, Lennoxton, G66 7EY, grid reference NS 63207 77256

Freeland Place Play Park, 3 Willowbank Gardens, Kirkintilloch, G66 3AN, grid reference NS 65704 73804

Friars Croft Play Park, 129 Friars Croft, Kirkintilloch, G66 2AX, grid reference NS 66605 73603

Gartshore Park, 57 Burnbrae, Twechar, G65 9QW, grid reference NS 69814 75662

High Park, 39 Bencloich Crescent, Lennoxton, G66 7NA, grid reference NS 62974 78024

Juniper Drive Play Park, 39 Juniper Drive, Milton of Campsie, G66 8HL, grid reference NS 64870 76016

Kincaid Drive Park, 10 Kincaid Drive, Lennoxton, G66 7HL, grid reference NS 62280 78316

Kincaid Park and Play Park, Strathkelvin Railway Path, Milton of Campsie, G66 8BG, grid reference NS 65414 76446

Langmuir Play Area, 31 Strathearn Grove, Kirkintilloch, G66 2PL, grid reference NS 67724 74507

Lenzie Rugby Football Club, 11A Myrtle Avenue, Kirkintilloch, G66 4HW, grid reference NS 65071 72260

Lugie Water Park, 30 New Lairdsland Road, Kirkintilloch, G66, grid reference NS 65860 73745

Meiklehill Nursery Play Park, 83 Meiklehill Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 2JY, grid reference NS 66229 74084

Merkland Recreation Centre with amenity grassland, 20 Woodstock Avenue, Kirkintilloch, G66, grid reference NS 66809 74015

Murray Gardens Play Park, 4 Murray Gardens, Milton of Campsie, G66 8BJ, grid reference NS 65223 76523

Newdyke Road Play Park, 165 Newdyke Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 2EL, grid reference NS 66731 74065

Parkburn Avenue Play Park, 63 Parkburn Avenue, Kirkintilloch, G66 4AY, grid reference NS 65079 72976

Peel Park, 50 Union Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1DH, grid reference NS 65118 73963

Play Space with amenity grassland, 12 Kelvinvale, Kirkintilloch, G66 1RB, grid reference NS 65665 74381

Public Park and Garden Playing Fields, 21 Campsie Road, Milton of Campsie, G66 8EB, grid reference NS 64986 76793

Public Park and Garden with Playing Fields, 7 Veitch Place, Lennoxton, G66 7JQ, grid reference NS 62674 77697

Public Park and Garden, 48 Service Street, Lennoxton, G66 7JP, grid reference NS 62482 78152

Public Park and Garden, 58 Waterside Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3HF, grid reference NS 66332 73420

Public Park and Gardens with green access route, 3 Broom Gardens, Kirkintilloch, G66, grid reference NS 64654 72532

Public Park and Gardens with woodland, 12 Union Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1DG, grid reference NS 65328 73968

Rosebank Play Area, 4 Merkland Drive, Kirkintilloch, G66 3PG, grid reference NS 67183 73620

Scott Avenue Play Park, 77 Scott Avenue, Milton of Campsie, G66 8DH, grid reference NS 65259 76983

Taig Gardens (also known as Waterside Recreational Grounds), 35 Taig Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3LT, grid reference NS 67668 73449

Thornwood Avenue Play Park, Christines Way, Kirkintilloch, G66 4EL, grid reference NS 64498 72558

Tintock Pitch, 35 Alloway Grove, Kirkintilloch, G66 2RD, grid reference NS 66688 74570

Tintock Road Play Park, 9 Langmuir Road, Kirkintilloch, G66, grid reference NS 66898 74262

Twechar Recreation, 9 Kelvin View, Twechar, Kilsyth, G65 9SL, grid reference NS 69837 75153

Whitegates Park, 44 Woodside Avenue, Kirkintilloch, G66, grid reference NS 65894 72612

Woodlands Way with Open Semi-Natural, 18 Woodilee Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 3UA, grid reference NS 66264 72650

Country Park

Mugdock Country Park, Craiggallian Road, near Milngavie, G62 8EL

This large country park is over 250 hectares in size and offers a range of activities from walking trails to cycling. The park is on the boundary of Stirling and East Dunbartonshire Council and is only 10 minutes north of Glasgow. A wide range of habitat is present for people and wildlife including woodland, grassland and ponds.

Sites with conservation designations

Local Nature Conservation Sites

Alloch Dam and Mount Dam, Milton of Campsie, site size 12.7 ha, grid reference NS 64377 77026
An area of mixed deciduous woodland and two areas of open water. This site is adjacent Campsie road in Milton of Campsie.

Almeel Burn, Clachan of Campsie, site size 93.6 ha, grid reference NS 59576 81314
A very steep sided gorge going up the Campsie Fells with wetland and grassland habitat alongside the burn.

Antermony Loch, Milton of Campsie, site size 24.12 ha, grid reference NS 66845 76724
A large area of open water with associated wetland habitat to the east of Milton of Campsie.

Ashenwell Dams, Milton Campsie, site size 6.4 ha, grid reference NS 64965 77840
Mixed deciduous woodland with open water and wetland habitats. This site is adjacent to Spouthead and on the very lower slopes of the south part of the Campsie Fells.

Balgrochan Marsh, Campsie Glen Golfcourse, Lennoxton, site size 6.1 ha, grid reference NS 62737 78326
An area of wetland and grassland south of Campsie Glen Golfcourse. Part of the very east of the site may currently be getting developed, as seen from aerial photography on Google maps.

Barbeth Moss, Moddiesburn, site size 36.36 ha, grid reference NS 70136 72235
This lowland bog is important for the rare habitat that it supports and its restricted range. The site lies just north of the M80.

Barhill, Twechar, site size 168 ha, grid reference NS 70927 75742
A large site with mixed woodland with open areas of grassland and scrub.

Barraston Grasslands, Torrance, site size 11 ha, grid reference NS 62009 74712
There is a variety of sections within this site to include areas of open grassland and other areas of mixed deciduous woodlands.

Barraston Quarry Grasslands, Torrance, site size 156.2 ha, grid reference NS 60538 75822
A large area of derelict quarry with a variety of habitats in different sections, including areas of woodland, grassland, open water with surrounding wetland.

Birdston, Milton of Campsie, site size 10.65 ha, grid reference NS 65567 75961
This site is south of Milton of Campsie and is made up of woodland and wetland habitat.

Blairskaith Quarry, Torrance, site size 18.8 ha, grid reference NS 59515 75528
A derelict quarry with a variety of habitats present including mixed woodland, grassland, areas of bare ground, variety of slopes. The site is west of Torrance.

Bridgend Marshes, Kirkintilloch, site size 52.79 ha, grid reference NS 67354 75347 and NS 68069 76296

This site is within two sections, the one at NS 68069 76296 is smaller at c. 1.5 ha. Large areas of wetland and open grassland are present at the site along with some woodland.

Broomhill Oxbow Lake and Broomhill Hospital Marsh, Kirkintilloch, site size 17.7 ha, grid reference NS 65895 74653

This site to the very north of Kirkintilloch is situated between the Forth and Clyde Canal and River Kelvin. There is a large area of open grassland with some scrub and wetland at this site.

Campsie Glen, Clachan of Campsie, site size 142 ha, grid reference NS 61924 80436

A steep sided glen going up the Campsie Fells with some deciduous woodland, open grassland and stream.

Campsie Glen Golf Course, Lennoxton, site size 110 ha, grid reference NS 63545 79235

Part of this site overlaps with Meikle Revie described above. The site is dominated by grassland and is just north of the golf course at Lennoxton.

Craigbarnett, Strathblane Road, Clachan of Campsie, site size 12.9 ha, grid reference NS 59481 79141

An area of mixed deciduous woodland to the west of Clachan of Campsie.

Craigmaddie Muir/Craigend Muir/Blairskaith Muir, Lennoxton, site size 264 ha, grid reference NS 58836 77777 and NS 58436 76682

The three parts of this large site are within two areas that are intersected by Lennox Forest (see below). Habitat at both sites is made up of grassland and heathland.

Craigmaddie Plantation, Lennoxton, site size 65 ha, grid reference NS 57625 76784

Large area of mixed plantation and semi-natural woodland. From aerial image it appears as if some areas have recently been cleared.

Easterton Moss Plantation, Twechar, site size 10.56 ha, grid reference NS 69053 74522

To the west of Twechar with both woodland and grassland habitat.

Easterton Woods, Twechar, site size 43.3 ha, grid reference NS 68925 74734

Two areas of open mixed woodland which have some open areas present to the west of Twechar. Between the sites lies grassland that may be associated with agriculture.

Fin Glen, Clachan of Campsie, site size 81 ha, grid reference NS 59202 80719

A steep sided glen alongside Fin Glen Burn going up the sides of the Campsie Fells. The site is mostly grassland with some woodland.

Finniescroft, Torrance, site size 72.3 ha, grid reference NS 62360 75857

The boundary of the site connects a variety of habitats that includes woodland, wetland and grassland.

Harestanes, Kirkintilloch, site size 6.6 ha, grid reference NS 66351 74374

This site lies alongside the Forth and Clyde Canal to the north of Kirkintilloch and has open grassland and scrub with some wetland.

Gartshore Moss and Grayhill Woods, Drum Mains, site size 66 ha, grid reference NS 70199 73571 (moss), NS 70932 73504 (woods) and NS 71046 73107 (woods)
These three sites include woodland, grassland, wetland and open water.

Gartshore Woods, Kennel Plantation, Heronryhill, Twechar, site size 76.88 ha, grid reference NS 69059 73737, NS 69661 74848 and NS 71031 74671
The different parts that make up this site are mostly mixed deciduous woodland but also contain some open water and grassland.

Glazert Wood, Lennoxton, site size 18.7 ha, grid reference NS 61994 78324
A strip of mixed deciduous woodland within Lennoxton.

Hayston Oxbows, Kirkintilloch, site size 29.8 ha, grid reference NS 63632 73787
The River Kelvin passes through this site where it has created oxbows. Habitats present include open water from the river and oxbows and associated wetlands and grasslands.

Kierhill, Queenzieburn, site size 14 ha, grid reference NS 67916 77342
Mixed deciduous woodland within a glen and Wood Burn stream passing through it. There are some houses within the wood itself and the site is adjacent to the site Woodburn.

Lennox Forest, Lennoxton, site size 495 ha, grid reference NS 59686 77203
Large area of mixed plantation and semi-natural woodland.

Lenzie, Kirkintilloch/Lenzie, site size 0.97 ha, grid reference NS 63950 72945
An area of grassland with some scrub and wetland areas adjacent the Forth and Clyde Canal.

Lenzie Moss, Lenzie, site size 40 ha, grid reference NS 64794 71887
Lenzie Moss is a raised bog that has been extensively modified by former commercial peat extraction with only a small area at the south-western edge maintaining its original surface. Lenzie Moss is used for informal recreation and has a formal circular path. There are desire line footpaths across the site, some of which follow raised banks (known as baulks) created during peat extraction. This site is also designated as an LNR and has friends of group.

Manderston, Lennoxton, site size 2.4 ha, grid reference NS 60871 76533
A site amongst others close to Lennoxton with both woodland and wetland habitat.

Meikle Revie, Lennoxton, site size 177.2 ha, grid reference NS 63844 79121
This large site is just north of Lennoxton and encloses part of the site 'Campsie Glen Golf Course'. This site makes up the southern slopes of the Campsie Fells. Due to the large size and nature of the site with its slopes a variety of habitats are present including grassland, woodland and wetland.

Merklands Nature Park, Kirkintilloch, site size 20.97 ha, grid reference NS 67497 73996
This former colliery has a mosaic of habitats including grassland, woodland, marshland and open water. This site is also designated as an LNR.

Millersneuk Wetland, Lenzie, site size 24.39 ha, grid reference NS 66940 71148
This site is just to the south east of Lenzie and is an area of wetland with grassland and some open water.

Oxgang (Woodilee Hospital Woods), Lenzie, site size 20.59 ha, grid reference NS 66451 72535

The Bothlin Burn passes through this site which is just to the west of Lenzie. Habitat at the site is mostly mixed deciduous woodland.

Redmoss Grasslands, Milton of Campsie, site size 28 ha, grid reference NS 64410 76495
This site is just to the west of Milton of Campsie with a variety of grassland, woodland and scrub.

South Brae Marsh, Lennoxton, site size 19.25 ha, grid reference NS 62020 77275
This site is to the west of Lennoxton and has both grassland and woodland habitat.

Spouthead, Lennoxton, site size 106.5 ha, grid reference NS 65488 78572
This large site is just east of Meikle Revie and north of Milton of Campsie and makes up the southern slopes of the Campsie Fells. Both wetland and grassland habitat are present at the site.

Springfield Marsh, Kirkintilloch, site size 53 ha, grid reference NS 64976 74856]
This site is adjacent Kirkintilloch Golf Course to the north of Kirkintilloch. Currently the site is used for agriculture and has open grassland present.

Twechar Marshes, Twechar, site size 22.4 ha, grid reference NS 69322 75985 and NS 68845 75586
Wetland habitat is at both sites with some open water and grassland associated with the wetter habitat.

Waterside Bing, Kirkintilloch, site size 9.5 ha, grid reference NS 68569 73061
This derelict spoil heap has an open mosaic of habitats with area of bare ground, grassland, woodland and a variety of slopes.

Waterside Flood Pool and Barbeth Pool, Kirkintilloch, site size 15.3 ha, grid reference NS 68808 72818 and NS 70726 72712
Luggie Water passes through Waterside Flood Pool at NS 68808 72818 and is just south of Barbeth pool at NS 70726 72712. Wetland habitat is present at both sites alongside areas of open water associated with Luggie Water and open pools.

Woodburn, Milton of Campsie, site size 84.6 ha, grid reference NS 67016 77885
An area that encompasses Woodburn Reservoir (see above). The site is wetland with open water which is the reservoir itself.

Woodburn Reservoir, Milton of Campsie, site size 4.6 ha, grid reference NS 66508 77971
An area of open water that lies within the site Woodburn (see below) and surrounded by grassland.

Site of Special Scientific Interest

Sculliongour Limestone Quarry, SNH site code 1414, size 3.95 ha, grid reference NS 633791
Sculliongour Limestone Quarry is situated on the south face of the Campsie Fells, about 1km north of Lennoxton village. It supports an area of calcareous grassland, a habitat that is of considerable rarity in the west of Scotland.

Notified Natural Features:

Biological: Lowland grassland: Lowland calcareous grassland

South Braes, SNH site code 1449, size 32.62 ha, grid reference NS 617773
South Braes, lying 1km south west of Lennoxton, is the best example of unimproved, species-rich grassland in East Dunbartonshire. An intricate mixture of unimproved grassland types is represented, predominately lowland acid grassland and fen meadow.

Notified Natural Features:

Biological: Fens: fen meadow
Lowland grasslands: lowland acid grassland

Local Nature Reserve

Lenzie Moss, SNH site code 8644, site size 40 ha, grid reference NS 64794 71887

Lenzie Moss is a raised bog that has been extensively modified by former commercial peat extraction with only a small area at the south-western edge maintaining its original surface. Lenzie Moss is used for informal recreation and has a formal circular path. There is desire line footpaths across the site, some of which follow raised banks (known as baulks) created during peat extraction. This site is also designated as a LNCS.

Merklands, SNH site code 8659, site size 20.97 ha, grid reference NS 67497 73996

This former colliery has a mosaic of habitats including grassland, woodland, marshland and open water. This site is also designated as a LNCS.

Sites with Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land

253 Traders Area, Southbank road, Kirkintilloch, SVDL site code B8520234, grid reference NS 64940 73210

This derelict site is 3.68 ha in size and situated next to a river. An area with open mosaic habitat with bare ground, grassland and scrub.

Former Bus Depot, Milton Road, Kirkintilloch, SVDL site code I8520253, grid reference NS 65450 74400

This vacant site is 1.43 ha and has open grassland and some bare ground and scrub. Late successional vegetation surrounds the site.

Glen Road, Lennoxton, SVDL site code 8520188, grid reference NS 62210 78120

This vacant site is 0.55 ha and has open areas of bare ground and grassland and a lot of scrub.

Lenzie Hospital Site, Auchinloch Road, Lenzie, SVDL site code 8520266 grid reference NS 65990 71090. Derelict buildings at this site are 2.4 ha and owned by the health board. The site has open bare ground with vegetation and has late successional vegetation around this.

St. Flannans, Hillhead, Kirkintilloch, SVDL site code 8520025, grid reference NS 68800 74900

This derelict site owned by the local authority is 5.65 ha in size. A large area of late successional vegetation is present on the site, as well as open areas of bare ground that may hold some interest.

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Buglife would like to thank Central Scotland Green Network Ideas Fund and Scottish Natural Heritage for funding and supporting with this project and East Dunbartonshire Council for their advice and help

Photo credits L-R; Ladybird spider (*Eresus sandaliatus*) © S. Dalton, Jellyfish © D. Huffman, Tansy beetle (*Chrysolina graminis*) © S. Falk and Large garden bumblebee (*Bombus ruderatus*) © S. Falk



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