“EcoCoLife in SNH’s broader approaches to ecological networks”

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Butterfly Conservation Scotland
Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

EAST AYRSHIRE COALFIELD ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE

buglife Scotland

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rspb giving nature a home

Scottish Wildlife Trust

SEPA
Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Ecological Coherence Protocol

- Patch size
- Ecological function
- Habitat connectivity (functional/structural)
- Species (endemic endangered)
- Diversity

Peatlands

Wetlands

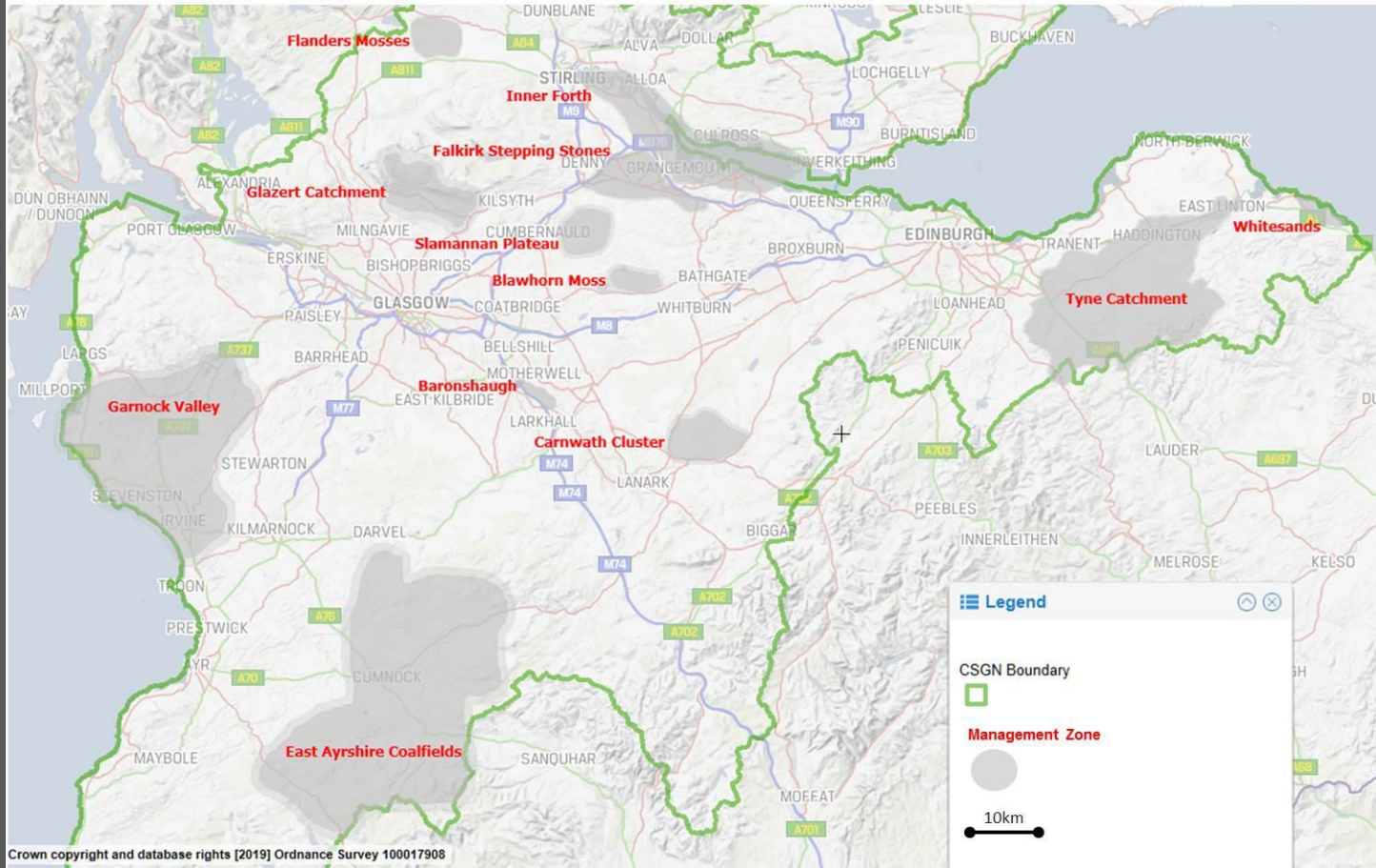
Freshwater

Open mosaic

EcoCoLife Management Zones

EcoCo

Joining up nature across central Scotland



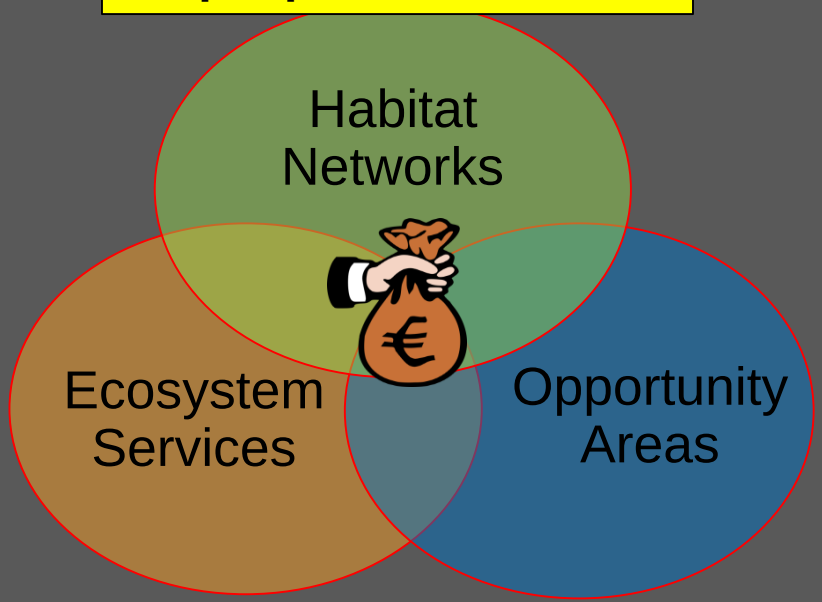
Ecological Coherence Protocol

The best places to work for people and wildlife

EcoCo

Joining up nature across central Scotland

- Accessible nature
- Education
- Green travel
- Carbon storage
- Local climate regulation
- Air purification
- Noise regulation
- Water purification
- Pollination



- Identification of source areas
- Least-cost connectivity analysis to map networks
- Low, medium and high dispersal distances

- Locations where an action is feasible
- Parameters include elevation, slope, land-use, land unit size, proximity to water courses, water levels …

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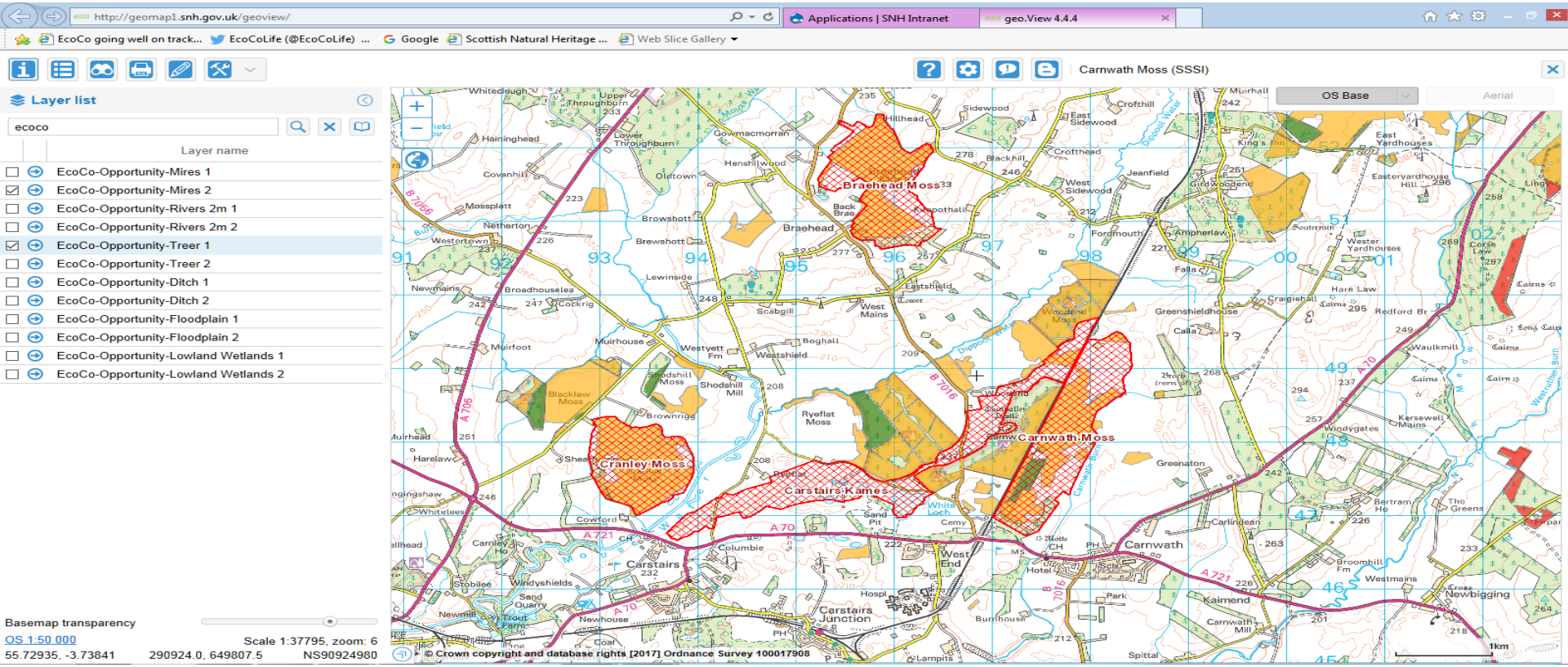
EcoServ-GIS

Carnwath Cluster; South Lanarkshire
Butterfly Conservation Scotland



Carnwath Cluster; South Lanarkshire
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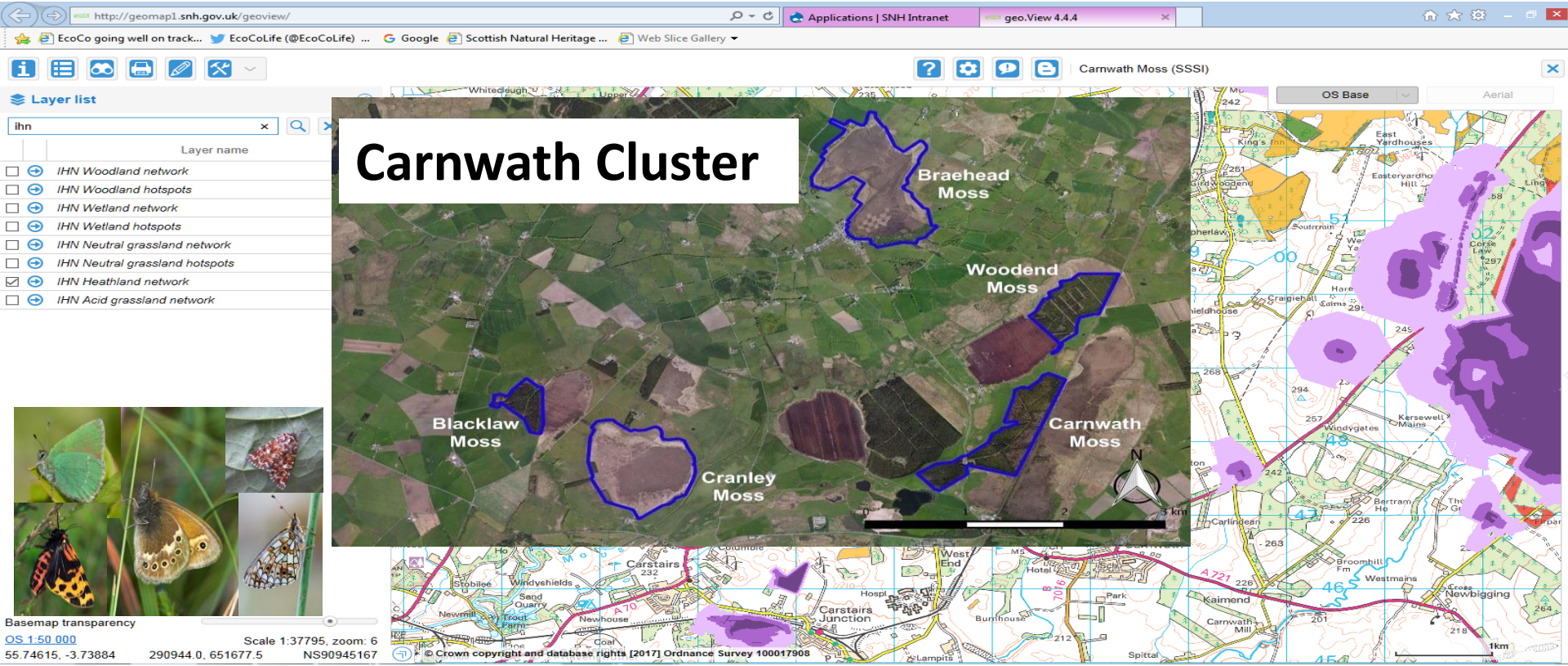

Scale of Opportunity across the CSGN

Habitat/conservation action	Total opportunity identified (km^2) (within networks)	Number of individual patches
Lowland wetland creation	316	22,789
Mires (peat) conservation	460	1131
Floodplain wetland creation	10	825
Tree removal on peat	15	1319
Ditch blocking on peat	0.7	23
River restoration adjacent land	20	4059
TOTAL	821.7	30,146

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Joining up nature across central Scotland

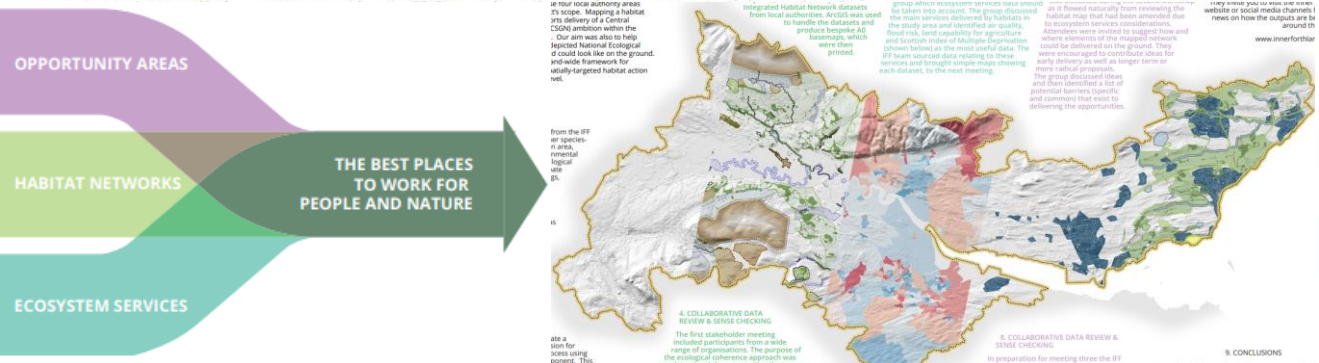
ECOLOGICAL COHERENCE: A PRACTITIONERS' GUIDE

INNER FORTH LANDSCAPE

www.innerforthlandscape.co.uk/about/habitat-network-project

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO PLANNING HABITAT CREATION AND ENHANCEMENTS

The EcoCo project (2014-2019) developed an 'ecological coherence protocol' to identify the best places across central Scotland for carrying out management interventions to maximise ecological, ecosystem services and socio-economic benefits. Inner Forth Futures piloted the approach to produce a revised version of the

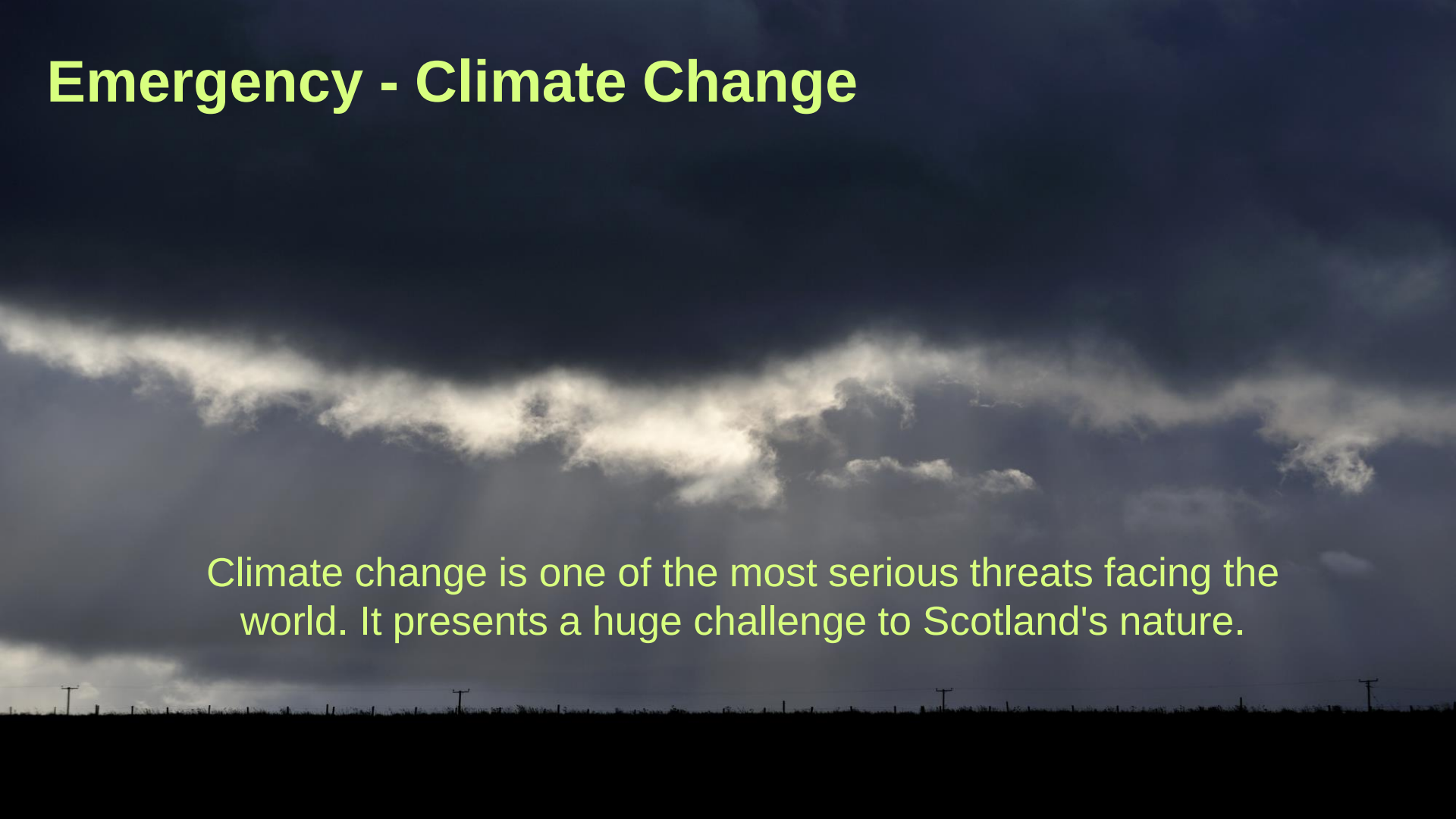


Home / Our Work / Habitat Network

Habitat Network

Our landscape is made up of many different
making these habitats function in the best po
network.

Emergency - Climate Change

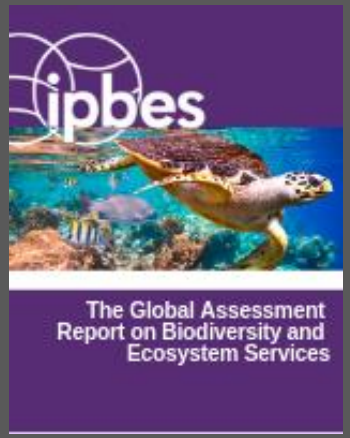


Climate change is one of the most serious threats facing the world. It presents a huge challenge to Scotland's nature.

A changing world

A changing world

2 May



6 May

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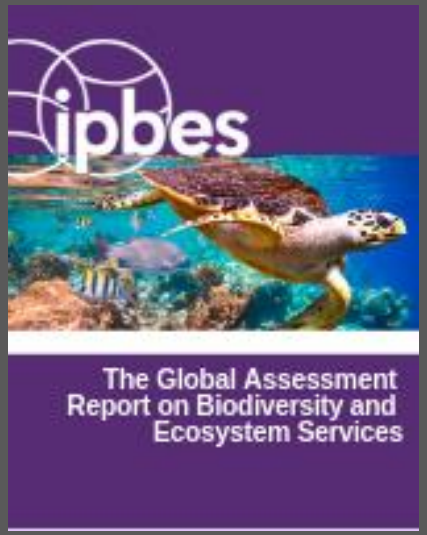
A changing world



Direct Drivers

- Changes in land & sea use
- Direct exploitation of organisms
- Climate change
- Pollution
- Invasion of alien species

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What might that look like for Scotland?

Nature based solutions

- Nature gains
- Sustainable food production
- Resilient cities
- Healthier & happier people
- Net zero carbon by 2045
- Economy

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In summary

- SNH want ecological networks as a solution
- SNH seeks alignment with other policy areas
- SNH recognises their beneficial role
- Ecological network approaches will vary
- SNH will continue to work closely with SG directorates
- Incentives and working examples in place or planned

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Thank you

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