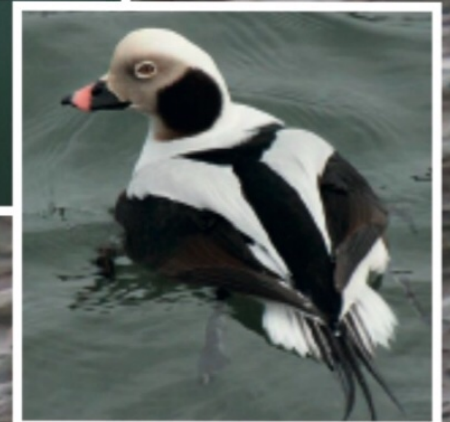
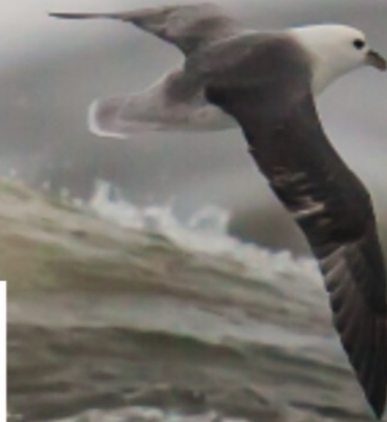
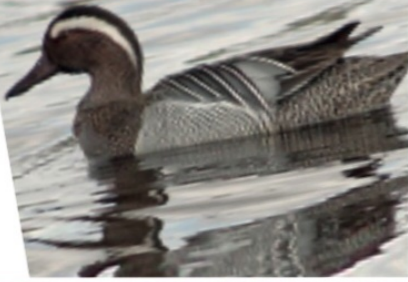


Fife Bird Report 2013

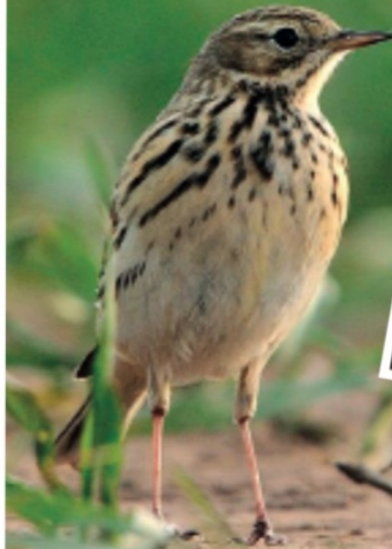


Produced by
Fife Bird Club

Garganey © Willie McBay



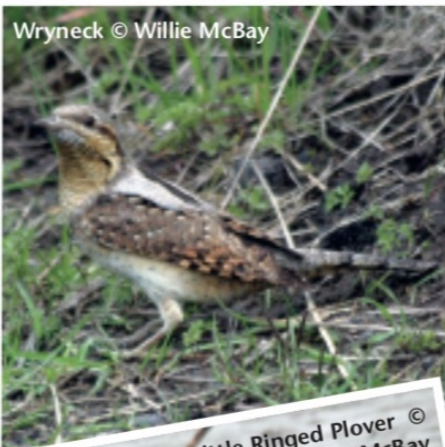
Meadow Pipit © Barry Farquharson



Bramblings © Willie McBay



Wryneck © Willie McBay



Kestrel © Willie McBay



Corn Bunting © Willie McBay



Little Ringed Plover © Willie McBay



Ring Ouzel © Willie Irvine



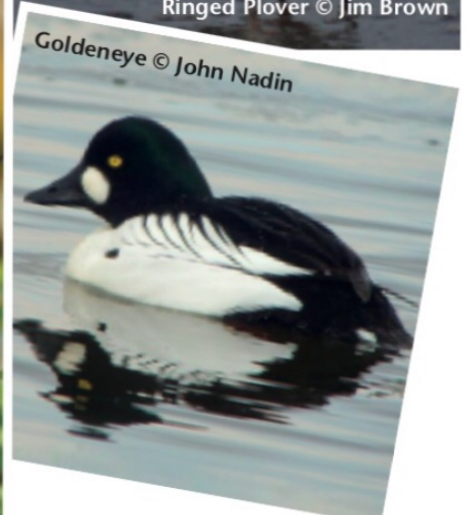
White Wagtail © Willie McBay



Ringed Plover © Jim Brown



Goldeneye © John Nadin



Wood Sandpiper © John Anderson



Red-backed Shrike © John McHale

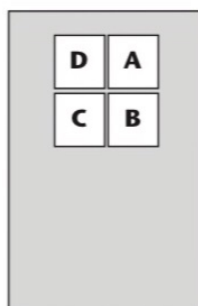


Fife Bird Report 2013

Including the Fife Ringing Report for 2013

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BACK COVER IMAGES:

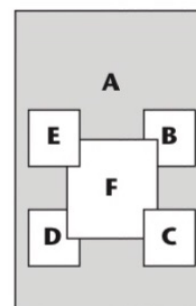
(Clockwise from top right)

A Waxwing © Ian Mason

B Stonechat © Jim Brown

C Pink-footed Goose © John Anderson

D Little Gull © Willie McBay



FRONT COVER IMAGES:

A "Seascape" © John Anderson

B Sparrowhawk © Ian Mason

C Long-tailed Duck © Jim Brown

D Pied Flycatcher © Willie Irvine

E Black Tern © John Nadin

F Red-flanked Bluetail © John Anderson

MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE YEAR

JANUARY

The New Year started at Balmullo with 11 Waxwings, the drake Surf Scoter was off Ruddons Point, three Bramblings were showing well at Blebo Craigs, 20 Whooper Swans, 112 Wigeon and three Goosanders started the year off at Craigluscar NR Reservoir, all on 1st. Eight Scaup were noted at Cameron Reservoir and a Mediterranean Gull was off Leven, both on 2nd, a redhead Smew was a good find at Morton Lochs NNR on the 3rd, also at Buckhaven that day were up to 130 Waxwings showing really well, with this site proving to be the most reliable site for these fabulous birds throughout the month, with the maximum number seen being 180 on the 20th. 40 Pale-bellied Brent Geese and 37 Pintails were counted in Balgove Bay on the 9th, a fine drake Smew was found at Loch Gelly on the 11th, with also a confiding flock of up to 39 Waxwings being seen virtually above the M90 between Kingseat and Cowdenbeath on 12th. A decent sized flock of 40 Waxwings were also noted in Kirkcaldy on the 13th, a redhead Smew was seen well from the Eden Estuary Centre from the 15th for three days while 59 Whooper Swans, a redhead Smew and 21 Gadwall were at Mountcastle GP on the 23rd. A scarce visitor to the Eden Estuary LNR was a Jack Snipe at Coble Shore Pools, on the 20th, a single Great Northern Diver and two Long-tailed Ducks were off Dalgety Bay on 24th, with a single Great Northern Diver seen off Pathhead the next day. A single Little Auk passed Fife Ness on 28th, when an excellent count of 25 Purple Sandpipers was also made there. Present all month was a Green Sandpiper in the Spinney at Dalgety Bay.



Waxwings © Andy Falconer

FEBRUARY

An excellent flock of 120 Bramblings was seen well at Craigluscar NR on 1st, 11 Twite were counted at Balgove Bay on the 2nd, a Barn owl was seen at Crombie on the 3rd when the drake Surf Scoter was off Ruddons Point. Three Gadwall were noted at Newton Farm on the 8th, two Purple Sandpipers at Seafield joined the over-wintering Greenshank on the 9th, with the Greenshank present there until the end of the month. Seven Red-throated Divers and six Slavonian Grebes were off Ruddons Point on 9th, 26 Whooper Swans were at Craigluscar NR on the 10th and 20 Bramblings were a good find at Lindores Loch on the 11th. The Snow Bunting number had risen to 45 at Kinshaldy by the 14th, 45 Waxwings were in Dunfermline the next day, 45 Whooper Swans and 25 Mute Swans were at Letham Pools on the 16th and another sizeable flock of Bramblings was found at Kilmany, with 70 there on the 17th. A female Scaup was an excellent find at Carnbee Reservoir on the 19th, while 43 Waxwings were at Hill of Beath on the 23rd and a fine male Hen Harrier was seen north of Leuchars on the 23rd.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*

Common winter visitor at regular sites, Lindores Loch, Cameron Reservoir, Rossie Bog, Letham Pools, Freuchie and the Eden Estuary LNR. There is a notable passage in April and October at the east coast.

SCHEDULE 1 & AMBER data list species.

January – March

In the first quarter, birds were noted at, or from 32 sites and during this period the main sites all recorded good counts. 1st January saw the month's highest count with 76 gathered at Rossie Bog while Craigluscar NR held 20 and a single was present at Carriston Reservoirs on the same date. On 2nd, 42 including juveniles, congregated at Dunshalt and 38 were at Clatto Reservoir where six juveniles were part of the group. 38 were noted at Letham Pools on 10th followed by 38 at Mountcastle GP on 13th, while records elsewhere were of lower numbers until 15th when 56 including 19 juveniles were noted at Mountcastle GP and 44 were at Clatto Reservoir, including nine juveniles. The next significant counts were 51 at Letham Pools and 59 at Mountcastle GP both on 23rd with other sightings being of lower numbers until 62 were seen at Letham Pools on 29th. In the first week of February counts ranged from two up to 28 in a number of locations with Letham Pools holding 77 on 7th. March counts were considerably smaller with the largest being on 1st and 12th at Craigluscar NR with 26 on both dates. 23 were at Cameron Reservoir on 9th and 23 were viewed at Clash Wood, also on 9th.

April – June

As expected there were fewer reports and of smaller number in this quarter than in the previous period. 12 April records were mainly of individuals which came from locations including Carriston Reservoir, Mountcastle GP and Letham Pools with a maximum count of 12 at Cameron Reservoir on 3rd and ten at Rossie Bog on 20th. In May and June all 12 reports were of individuals restricted to sites such as Carriston Reservoir, Letham Pools, Mountcastle GP and Levenmouth, where birds occasionally associated with Mute Swans there.

July – September

There were only three reports in this quarter with a single at Carriston Reservoir on 21st July, seven, including four juveniles, at Kilconquhar Loch on 12th August and an individual at Carriston Reservoirs on 15th September.

October – December

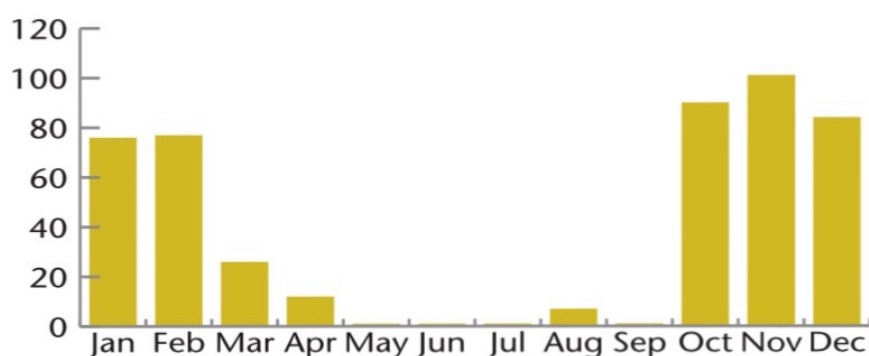
As anticipated the number and size of counts increased during this quarter although none



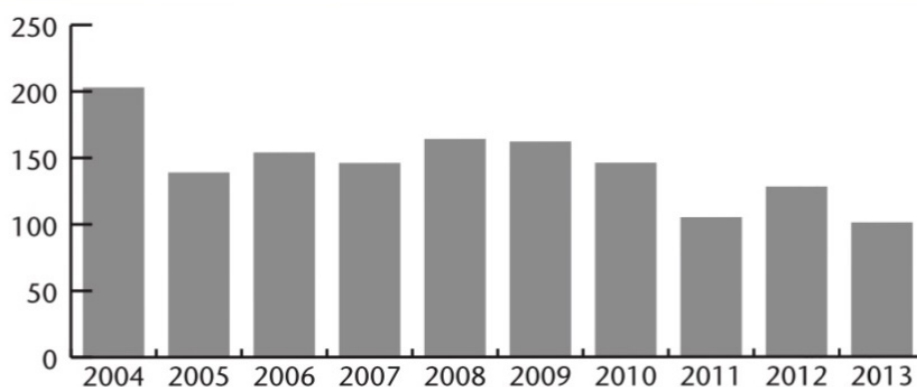
exceeded 100 birds until the end of November. On 8th October there were 215 over Kilrenny with 51 at Loch Fitty on 10th and 15 at Lochore Meadows CP on the same day. On 28th, four were at Eden Estuary LNR, with 90 gathered at Clatto Reservoir, including 11 juveniles and on 31st there were 44 at Lindores Loch. In November there were several larger counts starting with 53 at Letham Pools on 3rd, with 88 reported at Clatto Reservoir on 4th and 47 there again on 10th. Lindores Loch had 62 on 10th, while Clatto Reservoir logged 33 on 11th rising to 49 on 17th. Numbers at Lindores Loch rose to 81 on 22nd and peaked at 101 on 30th which was also the maximum count of the year. December had fewer records, with a maximum count of 84 at Lindores Loch on 18th. Clatto Reservoir was the only other site to have a sizeable flock with 36 on 15th.

2013 LOCATIONS: Angle Park GP, Anstruther, Ballo Reservoir, Bankton Park, Braefoot Point, Cameron Reservoir, Carlhurlie Reservoir, Carlingnose Point, Carnbee Reservoir, Carriston Reservoirs, Clash Wood, Clatto Reservoir, Coble Shore, Craigluscar NR, Dalbeath Marsh LNR, Dalgety Bay, Dalginch, Damhead of Torr, Daubs, Drumley, Dunshalt, Eden Estuary LNR, Elie Ness, Harperleas Reservoir, Hill of Beath, Houndshead Bridge, Inverkeithing, Kelty, Kilconquhar Loch, Kilmany, Kilrenny, Ladybank, Largo Bay, Letham Pools, Levenmouth, Lindores Loch, Loch Fitty, Loch Gelly, Lochore Meadows CP, Longannet Power Station, Lydax Cottages, Moor Loch, Mountcastle GP, Newburgh, Out Head, Pathhead, Peppermill Dam, Rossie Bog, Saline, Springfield, Springfield Muir, St Andrews, Tayport, Tentsmuir Point NNR, Torry Bay, Westfield Opencast, Wilderness.

PEAK MONTHLY COUNT 2013



10 YEAR ANNUAL PEAK COUNT (2004 - 2013)



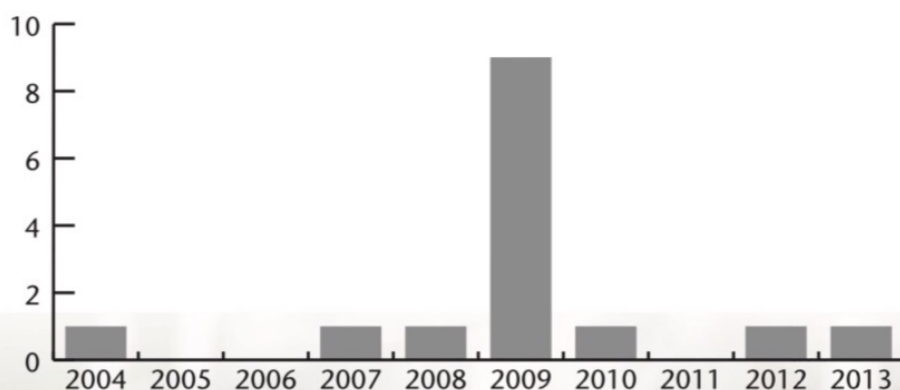
Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapilla(34)**

Rare spring and autumn migrant.

SCHEDULE 1 species.

A single bird at Kilminning on 17th October (Gus Guthrie) was the only record received this year. This species still requires a written description due to it's scarcity in Fife.

2013 LOCATIONS: Kilminning.

10 YEAR ANNUAL PEAK COUNT (2004 - 2013)

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Common passage migrant, which winters in small numbers. The Eden and Forth Estuaries hold nationally important numbers.

SCHEDULE 1 & AMBER data list species.

January - March

In the first quarter, good numbers of over-wintering birds were reported, including singles at Kirkcaldy on 10th January, Seafield on 12th, when two were also noted at Valleyfield Lagoons. Eight were on the Eden Estuary LNR on 15th and there were reports of one at Seafield up to 29th. In February one was at Pathhead on 2nd, one at Coble Shore on 2nd and one at Kirkcaldy on 7th. Five were on the Eden Estuary LNR on 8th with a single at Seafield on the same date. A single was at Kinshaldy on 15th with one at Tayport on 17th and one at Kirkcaldy on 21st. March records included one at Tentsmuir Point NNR on 1st, one at Seafield on 3rd and four on the Eden Estuary on 8th. One was at Seafield on 22nd, one at Crombie Point on 24th and there were singles at Seafield and Coble Shore on 31st.

April - June

In the second quarter, one was at Rossie Bog on 12th April, one was at Torry Bay on 18th and the final record for the quarter was of one at Valleyfield Lagoons on 5th May.

July - September

In the third period return passage began with one at Letham Pools on 10th July, then five on the Eden Estuary on 22nd, one at Seafield on 27th and two at Letham Pools on 31st. In August singles were at Letham Pools and Tayport on 2nd with five at Bluther Burn on 6th. Four were at Letham Pools on 11th and there was also one at Anstruther, while two were at Letham Pools on 13th with six in Balgove Bay the following day. On 16th, two were at Letham Pools and two at Anstruther with four at Letham Pools and three on the Eden Estuary on 18th. 14 were on the Eden Estuary on 21st with five at Letham Pools on 24th. Also on 24th, two were at Lydiox Cottages, with two at Cameron Reservoir on 25th. 15 were at Valleyfield Lagoons on 25th and 16 at Burntisland also on 25th, was the highest count of the year. Three were at Letham Pools



on 28th, when five were also at Valleyfield Lagoons. In September, eight were on the Eden Estuary LNR on 1st, with two at Letham Pools up to 6th. One was at Lydiox Cottages on 7th, one was at Anstruther on 12th and two were at Mountcastle GP at 14th. On 17th, 12 were at Valleyfield Lagoons and three at Culross. Six were on the Eden Estuary LNR on 19th and two were also at Valleyfield Lagoons on 22nd. Two were at Buddo Rock on 27th.

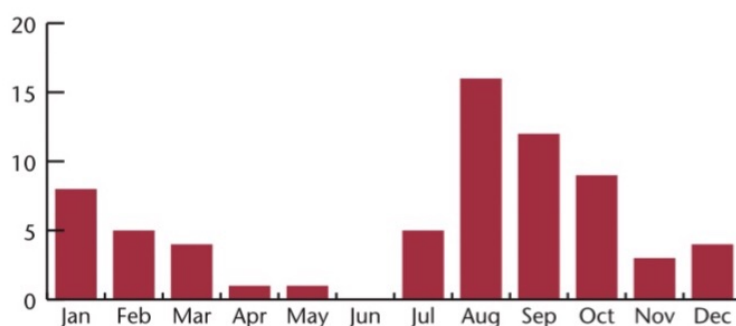
October - December

During the final quarter, two were still at Buddo Rock on 9th and two were at Torry Bay on 14th. Eight were at Valleyfield Lagoons, three at Blair Castle and three at Culross on 20th. Two were at Crombie Point on 21st, two were near Kittock's Den on 26th and three visited Valleyfield Lagoons on 27th. Nine were on the Coble Shore on 31st. In November one was at Tentsmuir Point NNR on 1st, with singles at Seafield on 4th and Kittock's Den on 7th. Two were at Valleyfield Lagoons on 9th and three were on the Eden Estuary on 13th. Four on the Eden Estuary LNR on 16th December was the only multiple record at the end of the year, otherwise reports were of with singletons from sites such as Seafield and Valleyfield Lagoons.

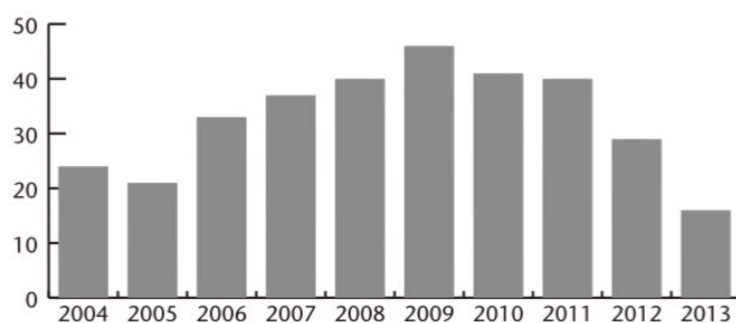
2013 LOCATIONS: Anstruther, Balbeggie Pond, Balgove Bay, Blair Castle, Bluther Burn, Buddo Rock, Burntisland, Cameron Reservoir, Coble Shore, Crombie Point, Culross, Eden Estuary LNR, Guardbridge, Kinghorn, Kinshaldy Beach, Kirkcaldy, Kittock's Den, Letham Pools, Loch Gelly, Longannet Power Station, Lucky Scalp, Lydiox Cottages, Morton Lochs NNR, Mountcastle GP, Newburgh, Pathhead, Peppermill Dam, Rossie Bog, Seafield, Tayport, Tentsmuir Point NNR, Torry Bay, Valleyfield Lagoons, West Sands.

WeBS Monthly High Tide Counts									Greenshank			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Eden Estuary	8	5	4	0	0	0	5	14	6	0	3	4
Forth Estuary	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	33	3	12	0	1
Tay Estuary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1

PEAK MONTHLY COUNT 2013




10 YEAR ANNUAL PEAK COUNT (2004 - 2013)



Summer visitors in 2013

First and last dates of summer migrants in Fife 2013

Species	First	Last
Garganey	21 Apr	25 Aug
Quail	24 Jun	21 Jul
Marsh Harrier	25 Apr	26 Dec
Osprey	02 Apr	21 Sep
Little Ringed Plover	10 Apr	12 Sep
Little Stint	09 Jun	28 Sep
Curlew Sandpiper	06 Aug	28 Oct
Whimbrel	09 Feb	20 Oct
Common Sandpiper	07 Apr	27 Sep
Little Tern	09 Jun	18 Aug
Black Tern	26 Aug	08 Sep
Sandwich Tern	10 Mar	28 Oct
Common Tern	22 Apr	30 Sep
Roseate Tern	27 Jul	27 Jul
Arctic Tern	13 Apr	31 Oct
Cuckoo	02 May	11 Aug
Swift	24 Apr	08 Sep
Sand Martin	08 Apr	31 Oct
Swallow	12 Apr	08 Nov
House Martin	14 Apr	07 Oct
Tree Pipit	25 Apr	14 Sep
Yellow Wagtail	24 Apr	18 Jul
Black Redstart	27 Sep	15 Oct
Redstart	10 May	05 Oct
Whinchat	30 Apr	30 Aug
Wheatear	15 Apr	23 Oct
Ring Ouzel	01 Oct	14 Oct
Grasshopper Warbler	09 May	28 May
Sedge Warbler	20 Apr	18 Sep
Reed Warbler	NR	NR
Blackcap	16 Jan	03 Dec
Garden Warbler	05 May	08 Sep
Lesser Whitethroat	27 Jun	20 Oct
Whitethroat	28 Apr	26 Sep
Chiffchaff	05 Mar	27 Dec
Willow Warbler	15 Apr	22 Oct
Spotted Flycatcher	16 May	28 Sep
Pied Flycatcher	26 Sep	04 Oct
Red-backed Shrike	19 May	20 May



GAZETTEER

LOCATION	GRID REF	LOCATION	GRID REF
5 Roads Roundabout	NO425267	Balgeddie	NO256028
Abden	NT276879	Balgonie Castle Wood	NO311007
Abdie	NO259163	Balgove Bay	NO483184
Aberdour	NT190853	Balgove Farm	NO483171
Abernethy Bank	NO217190	Balgownie Mains	NS982889
Abertay Sands	NO533284	Balgriebank	NO352043
Aiky Hill	NT002929	Balhelvie	NO308218
Airdrie	NO568084	Balhouffie	NO550064
Angle Park GP	NO294113	Balkaithly	NO548111
Annets Hill	NO343044	Ballantagar	NO310137
Annfield	NO319078	Ballgillie Reservoir	NO239036
Annfield Farm	NO399063	Ballinbreich	NO273203
Annsmuir	NO313112	Ballindean	NO369223
Anstruther	NO567035	Ballingall Mill	NO249028
Approach Wood	NO302130	Ballinkirk Farm	NO327047
Ardie Hill	NO356225	Ballo Craigs Wood	NO224056
Ardross Farm	NO508007	Ballo Reservoir	NO224050
Arncroach	NO514051	Ballomill	NO329106
Auchindownie	NO421056	Balmakin	NO489049
Auchmuir Bridge	NO218011	Balmalcolm	NO320084
Auchterderran	NT213960	Balmerino	NO359248
Auchtermuchty Common	NO235132	Balmonth Reservoir	NO542068
Auchtertool	NT215907	Balmullo	NO428207
Ayton Farm	NO303183	Balmungo House	NO523146
Aytonhill Pond	NO295187	Balmuto	NT221897
Babbet Ness	NO593142	Balneil Farm	NO473056
Backmuir of Pitfiirane	NT062885	Balwearie Castle	NT251904
Baincraig	NO230120	Bandrum	NT039915
Balass	NO392144	Bankhead Farm	NT245995
Balbaird	NO436057	Bankhead Moss	NO447103
Balbedie Farm	NT195993	Bankton Park	NO305085
Balbeggie Pond	NT291961	Barham	NO317126
Balbirnie	NO289025	Barnhill Bay	NT186841
Balbougie	NT142849	Barns Farm	NT167844
Balbuthie	NO502020	Barnsmuir	NO597062
Balcarres Den	NO487043	Barnyards Marsh	NO484024
Balcaskie Estate	NO525035	Barrington	NO217092
Balchrystie	NO460030	Bath	NS972909
Balcomie	NO625098	Bath Moor Plantation	NS970913
Balcomie Beach	NO631103	Bawbee Bridge	NO375006
Balcormo Farm	NO514042	Beleybridge	NO542101
Balcurvie	NO338010	Beley Farm	NO537107
Baldinnie	NO431113	Bell Rock View	NO541095
Baldridge Burn	NT095889	Bellfield Farm	NO319011