

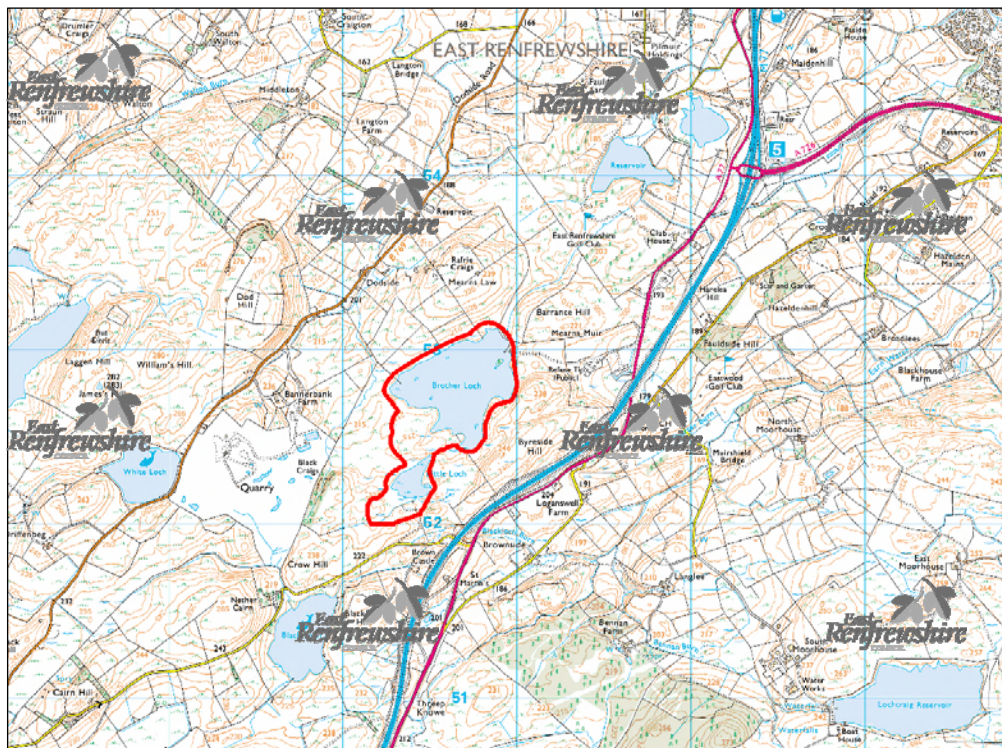
Site of Special Scientific Interest East Renfrewshire

Brother and Little Lochs

Area: Eastwood

Size: 49.1 ha

Grid Ref: NS505525



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OS Landranger Series 64

OS Explorer Series 334

NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

Biological: Freshwater habitats: Oligotrophic loch

Biological: Non-vascular plants: Varnished hook-moss *Hamatocaulis vernicosus* (formerly known as slender green feather moss *Drepanocladus vernicosus*)

DESCRIPTION

Brother and Little Lochs, situated approximately five kilometres to the southwest of Newtown Mearns, contains the nationally scarce varnished hook-moss *Hamatocaulis vernicosus* and the best example of oligotrophic open water bodies and complex emergent vegetation communities within west central Scotland.

Emergent vegetation consists of a range of complex stands, dominated by reed and sedge communities together with characteristic graduated zones of shoreweed *Littorella uniflora*, water lobelia *Lobelia dortmanna* and quillwort *Isoetes lacustris*.

The varnished hook-moss *Hamatocaulis vernicosus* (formerly known as slender green feather moss *Drepanocladus vernicosus*) is a medium-sized straggling moss of base-rich flushes and springs in lowland sedge fens and occurs at this site around inflow springs feeding Little Loch.

NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the 1949 Act: 1953

Re-notified under the 1981 Act: 3 May 1983

Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 27 May 2009

REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected from 48 hectares.