



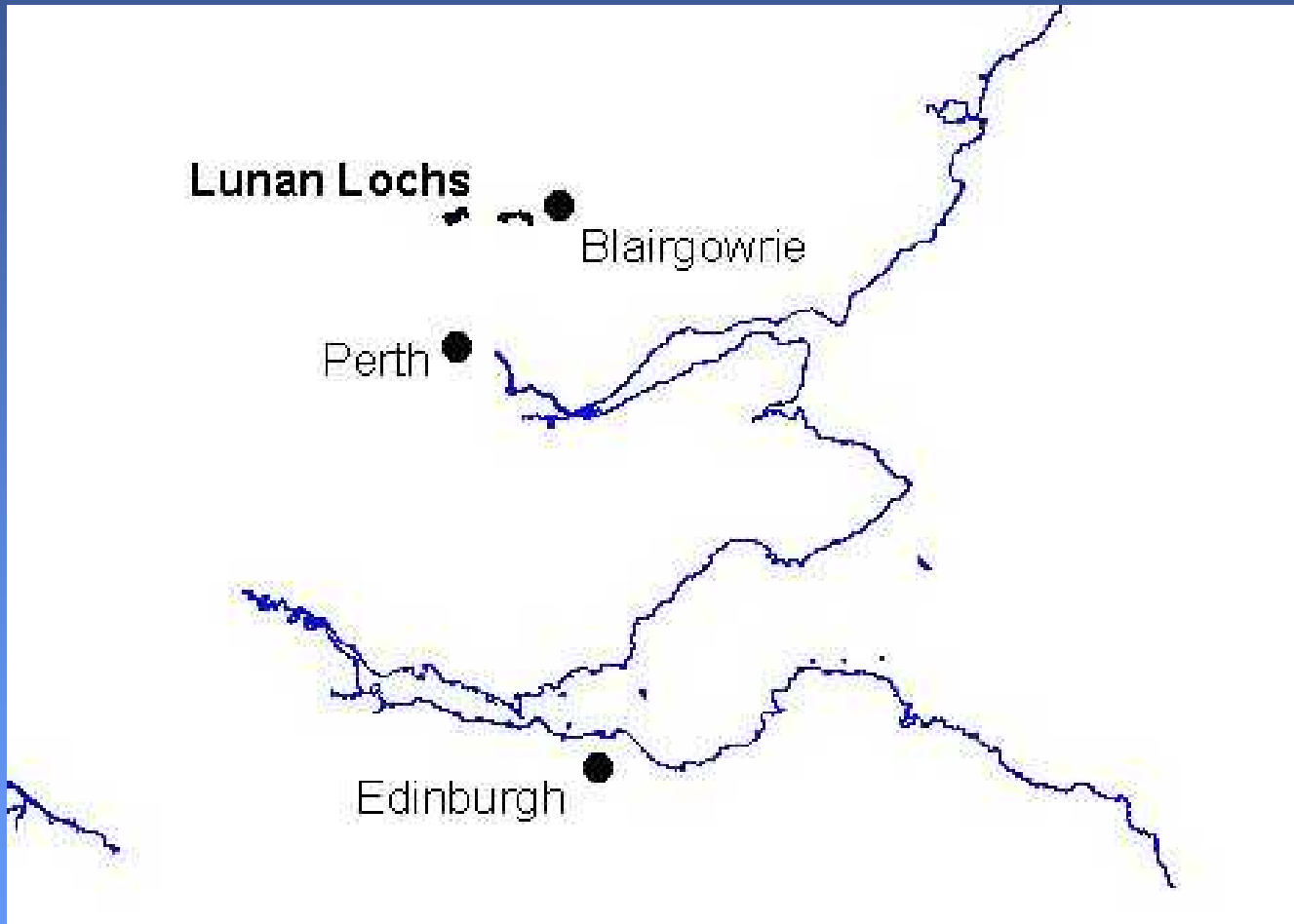
Lunan Lochs – Natural Care catchment management scheme

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What is our catchment management scheme aiming to do?

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- To arrest and reverse the deterioration in water quality resulting from a two to three fold increase in phosphorus levels arising mainly from agricultural inputs



Lunan Lochs Natural Care Scheme – delivering catchment management

A corporate target for SNH, agreed with the Scottish Executive, is to have 80% of designated land under assured management by 2008



Lunan Lochs Natural Care Scheme

Each of the 20 land holdings in the catchment has a management agreement with SNH which lays out a suite of individually agreed prescriptions

Natural Care Scheme – essential information

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- Pollution audits – on a farm by farm basis
- Include information about current land-use, phosphate nutrient budgets, waste management and proposed remedial action
- Identify significant phosphate inputs

Stakeholder involvement

- Existing high level of awareness of natural heritage importance of lochs
- Employ expert advice
- Pollution audits – drafts agreed by land manager
- Consulted on proposed n.c prescriptions and rates of payments
- Management plans drawn up by FWAG and agreed with land manager
- No local champion

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Monitoring and measures of success

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- An agreed monitoring strategy and monitoring group established
- Attribute Condition Objectives:

SEPA Standing water classification, maintain and restore – class 1

Trophic status – mesotrophic waters, prevent deterioration/restore (at management limits $\leq 25\mu\text{g/l}$) by 2015.

Maintain current diversity/extent of Potamogeton (pondweed) - 9 species recorded for Clunie and Marlee and 11 species for Lowes, Craiglush and Butterstone throughout photic zone

1. **Use of WFD benchmark reference points?**
2. **Key phosphate inputs?**

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