

Bog-rosemary



Scientific Name:
Andromeda polifolia

Current factors causing loss or decline

It is likely that the plant has never been common on local bogs in recent history; perhaps reflecting past disturbance of bogs at the time local plant recorders became active. Factors that disturb the raised bog habitat in general, such as drainage, burning and over-grazing, are all likely to be detrimental to populations of Bog-rosemary. It is known to have declined in Britain in general, particularly in England, where habitat loss is assumed to be a critical factor.

Current action

Bog-rosemary receives no specific action at present although both raised bogs (or parts of) within the City are included within City-wide Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs): Garnkirk Moss (South) and Commonhead Moss. See Raised Bog Action Plan for more information on raised bog protection.

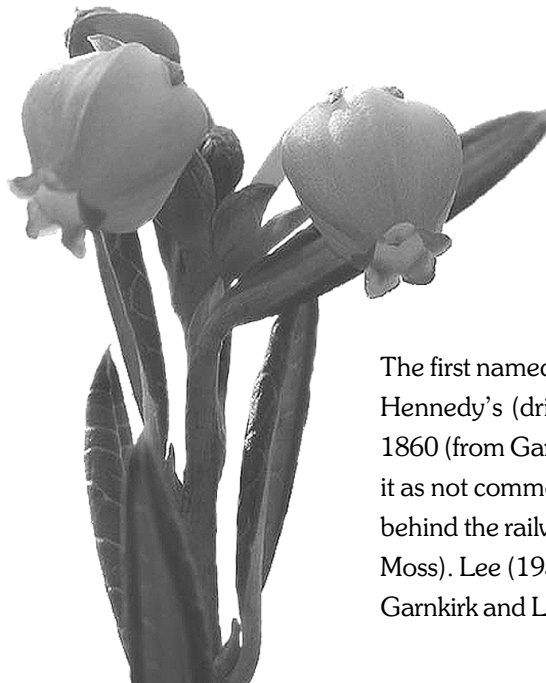
SWT surveyors have recently mapped and marked populations at Commonhead Moss and carried out habitat management work.

Current status

Bog-rosemary is a member of the heather family (Ericaceae). It is a low-growing, glabrous sub-shrub with large pink urn-shaped (urceolate) flowers. It occurs on lowland raised bogs, usually relatively undisturbed, and is also noted as being rarely found on wet heaths. Bog-rosemary is locally frequent in northern England and central Ireland, extending into Scotland, as far north as Flanders Moss.

Bog-rosemary is currently known from three sites in the Glasgow area: Lenzie, Garnkirk and Commonhead Mosses. Only the latter is wholly situated within the City area, although Garnkirk Moss extends into the City from North Lanarkshire, where the population occurs. At all sites, Bog-rosemary is present in small areas although local populations can be large.

Main Locations of Bog-rosemary in Glasgow



The first named local locality comes from one of Henney's (dried) herbarium specimens dated 1860 (from Garnkirk); his Flora (1891) describes it as not common and notes the Garnkirk site as behind the railway station (he also notes Cadder Moss). Lee (1933) noted it as rare and mentions Garnkirk and Lenzie.

Objectives and targets

The key priority is to establish the localities and viability of populations at known sites and check other likely sites. It is also important to increase the awareness among landowners and site users of the presence of Bog-rosemary and its vulnerability.

- Objective 1:** *Establish and maintain the current distribution of populations.*
Target 1: *Establish population sizes and viability and ensure no further loss or damage.*
- Objective 2:** *Ensure appropriate habitat management to encourage viable populations.*
Target 2: *Discourage further disturbance factors and initiate positive management.*
- Objective 3:** *Increase population sizes and site distribution.*
Target 3: *Increase known population sizes and investigate introducing to suitable new locations or sites.*

Proposed Action with Lead Authorities

Action	Lead	Delivery	Objective
Policy and Legislation			
Ensure Raised Bogs are protected in Local and City Plans.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-DRS	1
Ensure Policy Planning Guidelines include adequate protection and restoration policies for Raised Bogs and associate hydrology.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-DRS	1
Site Safeguard and Management			
Encourage landowners, managers and users to implement sympathetic management at suitable sites.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS, GfC-KC	1, 2
Oppose development applications which will cause damage to Raised Bogs with Bog-Rosemary populations.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-DRS, GCC-LS(CG)	1, 2
Species Management and Protection			
Introduce sympathetic species management at existing sites.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS, GfC-KC	1, 2
Advisory			
Advise relevant landowners and users on the presence of Bog-rosemary and its conservation management.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS, GfC-KC	1, 2, 3
Ensure information and guidance on conservation management is available.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS	1, 2, 3
Future Research and Monitoring			
Sample all populations to assess general viability and to form a basis for monitoring and management assessment.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS	1, 3
Survey suitable Raised Bogs to identify new populations.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS	1, 3
Consider suitable sites or locations for potential reintroduction.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS	3
Communication and Publicity			
Promote Bog-rosemary as indicator of high quality Raised Bogs to landowners and public.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS(CRS)	1, 2, 3
Links with other Plans			
Co-ordinate with management for Raised Bog Action Plan.	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS	1, 2, 3
Review Plan in 2007	GCC-LS(CG)	GCC-LS	1, 2, 3

Land Services (Conservation Group), Glasgow City Council, 37 High Street, GLASGOW G1 1LX Tel: 0141-287 5067 Fax: 0141-287-3519 email: iain.gibson@land.glasgow.gov.uk

Glasgow City Council: Development and Regeneration Services(GCC-DRS), Glasgow City Council: Land Services(Conservation Group) (GCC-LS(CG),

Glasgow City Council: Culture and Leisure Services (GCC-CLS), Glasgow City Council: Education Services (GCC-ES), Glasgow City Council: Land Services Countryside Ranger Service (GCC-LS(CRS)),

Scottish Ornithologists' Club (SOC), Greenspace for Communities(GfC), British Waterways (BW), Forestry Commission (FC), Farming Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG), The WISE Group (TWISE)

Glasgow Natural History Society (GNHS), Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT).

Clyde Amphibian and Reptile Group (CARG), Butterfly Conservation (BC), Concern for Swifts (CIS)