

## Spotting species

The Scottish Borders has a range of wildlife habitats from open moorland and grassland to wooded valleys and open water.

## Plantlife



**Pease Dean**, a remnant of the once extensive Penmansheil Woods, has nationally rare mosses (bryophytes), and the ancient sessile oakwoods are carpeted with greater woodrush, honeysuckle, foxglove, hard fern and wavy hair-grass. Ferns such as hart's tongue and soft shield fern grow along the burns and mosses and liverworts flourish in shaded places. Marsh vegetation at

**Bemersyde Moss** forms a mosaic with open water and willow carr, bulrush, bog bean and water horsetail. Greater spearwort, mare's-tail and marsh cinquefoil can be found at **Hare Moss**, and rare plants at **Yetholm Loch** include cowbane, a tall hairless and poisonous hogweed-like plant, and greater spearwort with its buttercup yellow flowers.

## Mammals

Otters can be seen from the bird hides at both **Bemersyde Moss** and **Yetholm Loch**. Visitors should be able to see roe deer at **Pease Dean**.



## Birds



Until recently, **Bemersyde Moss** was the summer home to 15,000 pairs of breeding black-headed gulls. Unfortunately the colony has declined in recent years and now only a few hundred birds remain. During the winter **Bemersyde Moss** has wigeon, teal, goldeneye, tufted duck and pochard. Greylag geese feed in the fields adjacent to the reserve. Little grebe and moorhen breed in **Hare Moss** and in the winter you can see goldeneye and tufted duck. Winter arrivals to Yetholm Loch include goosander, goldeneye and whooper swan. **Pease Dean** is home to a range of woodland birds including great spotted woodpecker, jay, woodcock, treecreeper and marsh tit.

## Insects

Forty species of water beetle have been recorded at **Hare Moss** including the rare *Laccornis oblongus*. Two notable species of diptera (true flies) have been found at **Pease Dean**, *Oxyrca pardalino* and *Sympyenus spiculatus*. Butterflies seen in the Borders include the northern brown argus, ringlet and Scotch argus.



# Join us and help protect Scotland's wildlife.

Membership gives you FREE entry to all our visitor centres and a discount for our many exciting events throughout the year. You will also receive our magazine, *Scottish Wildlife*, to help you keep up-to-date. Memberships start from £27.00 per adult (concession £15.00).

For more information, contact us on **0131 312 7765** or email **membership@swt.org.uk**  
You can also join online at **www.swt.org.uk**



### Falls of Clyde Visitor Centre & Wildlife Reserve

Breathtaking woodland walks along the River Clyde gorge and a visitor centre guarantees a fantastic day out.

● **New Lanark, Lanarkshire ML11 9DB**  
● tel: 01555 665262  
● email: fallsoclyde@swt.org.uk



### Loch of the Lowes Visitor Centre & Wildlife Reserve

Each spring, ospreys arrive and the observation hide offers stunning views of the eyrie. The visitor centre ensures a truly unforgettable experience.

● **Dunkeld, Perthshire PH8 0HH**  
● tel: 01350 727337  
● email: lochofthelows@swt.org.uk



### Montrose Basin Visitor Centre & Wildlife Reserve

Each winter, migratory birds arrive en masse. The interactive display explains the wildlife of the Basin.

● **Rossie, Montrose, Angus DD10 9TJ**  
● tel: 01674 676336  
● email: montrosebasin@swt.org.uk

## Scottish Wildlife Trust

Cramond House, Cramond Glebe Road, Edinburgh EH4 6NS  
● tel: 0131 312 7765 ● fax: 0131 312 8705 ● email: enquiries@swt.org.uk

Scottish Wildlife Trust is a registered charity (No. SC005792)

Scottish Wildlife Trust dedicates itself to the protection of Scotland's wildlife and the natural environment. Scottish Wildlife Trust is Scotland's leading wildlife conservation organisation with more than 26,500 members and 120 wildlife reserves throughout Scotland.



Scottish Wildlife Trust is a member of The Wildlife Trusts, a partnership of 47 independent Wildlife Trusts and 100 Urban Wildlife Groups. The Wildlife Trusts have more than 500,000 members and care for more than 2,500 wildlife reserves.

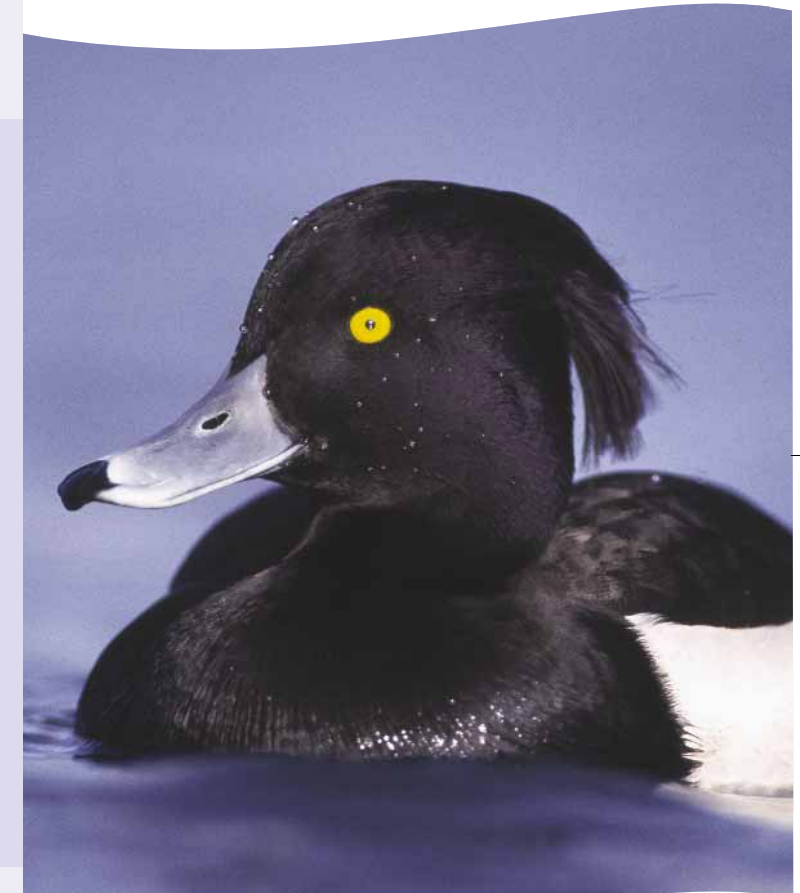
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# Watching wildlife in the Scottish Borders



Protecting **Scotland's wildlife** for the future  
**www.swt.org.uk**

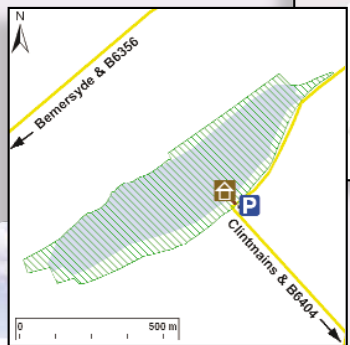
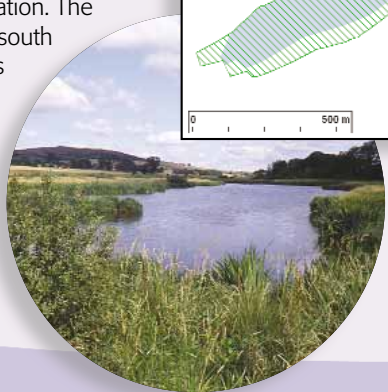
## Pease Dean

Pease Dean, situated above Pease Bay, has two distinct arms, Pease Burn and Tower Burn. The open valley nearer the sea is mainly grassland with gorse and alder, and further upstream the valley is steeper and more wooded.



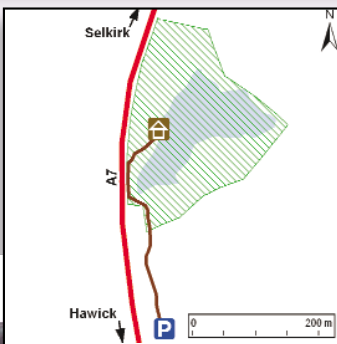
## Bemersyde Moss

Bemersyde Moss, four miles east of Melrose, is a long, narrow strip of shallow open water and marsh surrounded by willow scrub, reeds and marsh vegetation. The hide on the south side provides excellent views of the marsh.



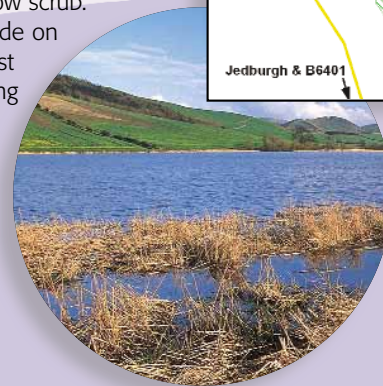
## Hare Moss

Hare Moss lies two miles south of Selkirk and is a shallow lochan formed after the outlet was dammed. In 2003 some of the conifers were harvested to create open areas around the lochan, making the site more attractive to waterfowl.

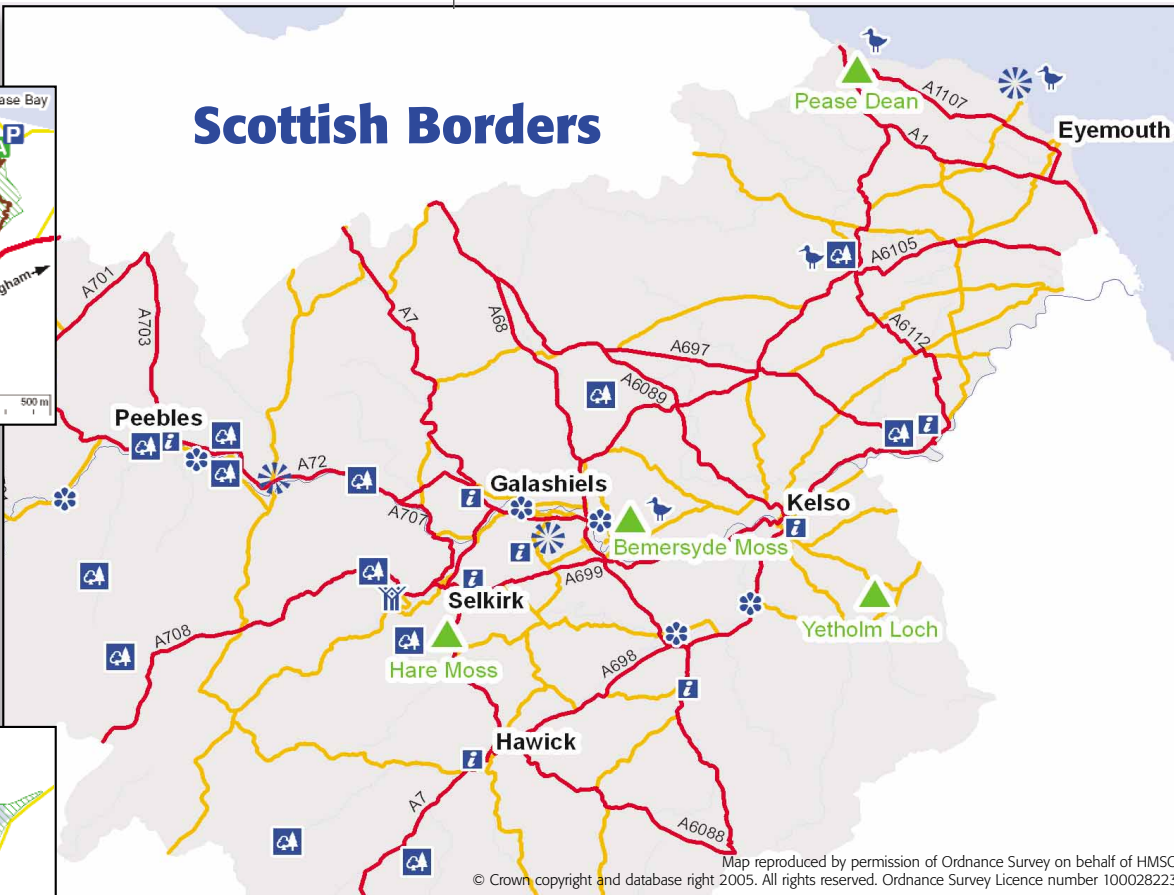


## Yetholm Loch

Yetholm Loch, six miles southeast of Kelso, is a shallow loch in a small, crescent-shaped valley. The floating swamp at the southern end of the loch gradually gives way to fen and willow scrub. There is a hide on the northwest shore allowing good views of birds on the open water.



# Scottish Borders



### Area map

- SWT reserve
- Nature reserve
- Nature or forest trail
- Garden (open to the public)
- Country park (open to the public)
- Tourist info centre (open all year)
- Viewpoint (360 degrees)
- A road
- B road
- Water bodies

### Reserve maps

- SWT reserve
- Footpath
- Hide
- Access points
- Car park
- A road
- B road
- Minor road
- Rail tracks
- Rivers
- Water bodies

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These reserves are just a collection of SWT reserves in this area. To find out about our other reserves, please visit our website at [www.swt.org.uk](http://www.swt.org.uk)