# Appendix C Screening of Designated Sites

## Table C-1: Screening of designated sites (JNCC, 2014; SNH, 2014; Marine Scotland, 2013; Thaxter *et al*., 2012)

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SSSI | Ballinreach Coastal Gorges | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland birch woodland<br>Stratigraphy: Kimmeridgian | 39.2 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying features would not be impacted as features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Beauly Firth | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Goosander (*Mergus merganser*), non-breeding<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage | 26.2 km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Wildfowl and waders feed on the intertidal areas. Qualifying habitats could also be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Berriedale Cliffs | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Razorbill (*Alca torda*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Seabird colony, breeding | 50.6 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Guillemot (*Uria aalge*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*), breeding<br>Supralittoral rock (Coast): Maritime cliff | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Breeding seabirds may travel to the area to feed, however due to the distances between the site and Moray Firth it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted.<br>Foraging distances:<br>Fulmar (breeding) are 580 km maximum and 47 km mean.<br>Razorbill (breeding) are maximum of 95 km and mean of 23 km.<br>Kittiwake (breeding) are maximum of 120 km and mean of 25 km.<br>Guillemot (breeding) are maximum of 135 km and mean of 37 km.<br>Shag (breeding) are maximum of 17 km and mean of 5.9 km. | **No** |
| SAC | Berriedale and Langwell Waters | Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:<br>• Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) | 56 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** The interest features of Atlantic salmon may travel across the proposed transfer area when migrating to/from spawning river and be affected by pathogens. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** The interest features of Atlantic salmon may travel across the proposed transfer area when migrating to/from spawning river and be affected by an oil spill. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ramsar | Cairngorm Lochs | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Standing open water and canals: Oligotrophic loch | 94.1 km (from Anchorage 17) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| Ramsar | Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Dunlin (*Calidris alpina schinzii*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), breeding<br>Birds - assemblages of breeding birds: Breeding bird assemblage<br>Bogs (Upland): Blanket bog | 48 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Dunlin and Greylag goose are found on coastal areas in addition to inland water bodies. Due to the distances between the site and Proposed transfer locations it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted. | **No** |
| Ramsar | Caithness Lochs | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Whooper swan (*Cygnus cygnus*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greenland white-fronted goose (*Anser albifrons flavirostris*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding | 90.4 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** The geese and swans feed in surrounding areas of agricultural land and other wetlands outside the site. However they are unlikely to travel in numbers to the area of proposed cargo transfers. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SSSI | Castle of Old Wick to Craig Hammel | Qualifying features:<br>Supralittoral rock (Coast): Maritime cliff | 90.4 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Craig Hammel to Sgaps Geo | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla),* breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Razorbill (*Alca torda*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Seabird colony, breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Guillemot (*Uria aalge),* breeding<br>Supralittoral rock (Coast): Maritime cliff | 79.1 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Breeding seabirds may travel to the area to feed, however due to the distances between the site and Proposed transfer locations it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted.<br>Foraging distances:<br>Kittiwake (breeding) are maximum of 120 km and mean of 25 km.<br>Razorbill (breeding) are maximum of 95 km and mean of 23 km.<br>Guillemot (breeding) are maximum of 135 km and mean of 37 km. | **No** |
| Ramsar | Cromarty Firth | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa* | 4 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to intertidal mudflats and sandflats. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | *lapponica*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding<br>Littoral sediment (Marine) Intertidal mudflats and sandflats | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Intertidal mudflats and sandflats could be impacted by oil spill. Geese and waders may be impacted by an oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SPA | Cromarty Firth | Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species during the breeding season:<br>• Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo)*, 294 pairs representing at least 2.4% of the breeding population in Great Britain<br>• Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus)*, 1 pairs representing at least 1.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain<br>Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species over winter:<br>• Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica)*, 1,420 individuals representing at | 4 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | least 2.7% of the wintering population in Great Britain<br>• Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus)*, 55 individuals representing at least 1.0% of the wintering population in Great Britain<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance migratory species over winter:<br>• Greylag Goose (*Anser anser)*, 1,777 individuals representing at least 1.8% of the wintering Iceland/UK/Ireland population<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) Assemblage qualification: A wetland of international importance:<br>Over winter, the area regularly supports 34,847 individual waterfowl including: Redshank (*Tringa totanus)*, Curlew (*Numenius arquata)*, Dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina)*, Knot (*Calidris canutus)*, Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus)*, Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator)*, Scaup (*Aythya marila)*, Pintail (*Anas acuta)*, Wigeon (*Anas penelope)*, Greylag Goose (*Anser anser)*, Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica)*, Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus)*.<br><br>The sheltered bays, intertidal flats and saltmarshes within the Cromarty Firth provide roasting and feeding grounds for internationally important numbers of wintering wildfowl and waders. | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species (seabirds, geese and waders) could potentially be affected by an oil spill. The wildfowl and waders are known to feed on the intertidal flats and saltmarshes within the Cromarty Firth.<br>Foraging distances for common tern (breeding) are maximum of 30 km and mean of 4.5 km. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Cromarty Firth | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Redshank (*Tringa totanus*), non- | 4 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh, mudflats and sandflats. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Wigeon (*Anas penelope*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Whooper swan (*Cygnus cygnus*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator),* non-breeding<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Mudflats<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Sandflats | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Saltmarshes, mudflats and sandflats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SAC | Culbin Bar | Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:<br>• Perennial vegetation of stony banks<br>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site<br>• Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)<br>• Embryonic shifting dunes | 8.5 km (from Anchorage 17) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Atlantic salt meadows could be affected by NNS and pathogens released in ballast water. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Perennial vegetation of stony banks could be affected by an oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Culbin Sands, Culbin Forest and Findhorn Bay | Qualifying features:<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Hydromorphological mire range<br>Fungi: Fungi assemblage<br>Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland<br>Lichen: Lichen assemblage<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Other invertebrates: Invertebrate assemblage<br>Standing open water and canals: Mesotrophic loch<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Shingle<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dunes<br>Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage | 8.6 km (from Anchorage 17) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Qualifying habitats could be affected by NNS and pathogens released in ballast water. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Qualifying habitats could be affected by an oil spill. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SSSI | Cullen to Stake Ness Coast | Qualifying features:<br>Dwarf shrub heath: Lowland dry heath<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Springs (including flushes)<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Quaternary geology and geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland<br>Structural and metamorphic geology: Dalradian<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Shingle | 62.4 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Unlikely.** Qualifying habitats are unlikely to be affected by NNS and pathogens released in ballast water due to the distance from the site to the proposed transfer locations. In addition some qualifying interests would not be impacted as features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Unlikely.** Qualifying habitats are unlikely to be affected by an oil spill due to the distance from the site to the proposed transfer locations. | **No** |
| SSSI | Dornoch Firth | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Whooper swan (*Cygnus cygnus*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Wigeon (*Anas penelope*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), non-breeding<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Eelgrass beds<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dunes<br>Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage | 16 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh and eelgrass beds. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Saltmarshes and eelgrass beds could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| Ramsar | Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non- | 12.4 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh and intertidal mudflats and sandflats. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Wigeon (*Anas penelope*), non-breeding<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Wet woodland<br>Littoral rock (Marine): Reefs<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Intertidal mudflats and sandflats<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dune | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SPA | Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet | Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species during the breeding season:<br>• Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus)*, 10 pairs representing at least 10.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain<br>Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species over winter:<br>• Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica)*, 1,300 individuals representing at least 2.5% of the wintering population in Great Britain | 12.6 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance migratory species over winter:<br>• Greylag Goose (*Anser anser)*, 2,079 individuals representing at least 2.1% of the wintering Iceland/UK/Ireland population<br>• Wigeon Anas penelope, 15,304 individuals representing at least 1.2% of the wintering Western Siberia/North western/North eastern Europe population<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) Assemblage qualification: A wetland of international importance:<br>Over winter, the area regularly supports 34,837 individual waterfowl including: Curlew (*Numenius arquata)*, Dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina)*, Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus)*, Teal (*Anas crecca)*, Wigeon (*Anas penelope)*, Greylag Goose (*Anser anser)*, Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica)*.<br><br>The tidal flats support internationally important numbers of waterbirds on migration and in winter, and are the most northerly and substantial extent of intertidal habitat for wintering waterbirds in the UK, as well as Europe. | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Waterbirds feed on the tidal flats which could be impacted by oil pollution. | **Yes** |
| SAC | Dornoch Firth and Morrich More | Annex I Habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:<br>• Estuaries<br>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide<br>• Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand<br>• Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)<br>• Embryonic shifting dunes<br>• "Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (""white dunes"")" | 12.4 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS and pathogens could cause important ecological consequences to a number of habitats. Harbour seals and otters could also be affected by pathogens. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | • "Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (""grey dunes"")" * Priority feature<br>• Decalcified fixed dunes with *Empetrum nigrum* * Priority feature<br>• Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicetea*) * Priority feature<br>• Humid dune slacks<br>• Coastal dunes with *Juniperus* spp. * Priority feature<br>Annex I Habitats present as a qualifying feature but not a primary reason for site selection<br>• Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time<br>• Reefs<br>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site<br>• Otter *Lutra lutra*<br>• Harbour seal *Phoca vitulina*<br><br>The Dornoch Firth is the most northerly large estuary in Britain and supports a significant proportion of the inner Moray Firth population of the Harbour seal *Phoca vitulina*. The seals, which utilise sand-bars and shores at the mouth of the estuary as haul-out and breeding sites, are the most northerly population to utilise sandbanks. Their numbers represent almost 2% of the UK population. The area supports a good population of otters in what is the only east coast estuarine site selected for the species in Scotland. | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Drummondreach Wood | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland oak woodland | 25 km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Dunbeath to Sgaps Geo | Qualifying features:<br>Supralittoral rock (Coast): Maritime cliff | 66 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SPA | East Caithness Cliffs | Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species during the breeding season:<br>• Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus)*, 6 pairs representing at least 0.5% of the breeding population in Great Britain<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance migratory species during the breeding season<br>• Guillemot (*Uria aalge)*, 71,509 pairs representing at least 3.2% of the breeding East Atlantic population | 48 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | • Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus)*, 9,370 pairs representing at least 1.0% of the breeding Northwestern Europe (breeding) and Iceland/Western Europe – breeding population<br>• Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla)*, 31,930 pairs representing at least 1.0% of the breeding Eastern Atlantic – Breeding population<br>• Razorbill (*Alca torda)*, 9,259 pairs representing at least 1.6% of the breeding population<br>• Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis)*, 2,345 pairs representing at least 1.9% of the breeding Northern Europe population<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) Assemblage qualification: A seabird assemblage of international importance:<br>During the breeding season, the area regularly supports 300,000 individual seabirds including: Puffin (*Fratercula arctica)*, Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus)*, Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo)*, Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis)*, Razorbill (*Alca torda)*, Guillemot (*Uria aalge)*, Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla)*, Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus)*, Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis)*.<br><br>The seabirds nesting on the East Caithness Cliffs feed outside the SPA in inshore waters as well as further away. The cliffs overlook the Moray Firth, an area that provides rich feeding areas for fish-eating seabirds. | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible**. Seabirds feed outside the SPA in inshore waters, as well as further away, however due to the distances between the site and transfer locations it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted.<br>Foraging distances:<br>Kittiwake (breeding) are maximum of 120 km and mean of 25 km.<br>Guillemot (breeding) are maximum of 135 km and mean of 37 km.<br>Razorbill (breeding) are maximum of 95 km and mean of 23 km.<br>Herring Gull (breeding) are maximum of 92 km and mean of 10.5 km.<br>Shag (breeding) are maximum of 17 km and mean of 5.9 km.<br>Puffin (breeding) are maximum of 200 km and mean of 4 km.<br>Fulmar (breeding) are maximum of 580 km and mean of 47 km.<br>Cormorant (breeding) are maximum of 35 km and mean of 5.2 km. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NC MPA | East Caithness Cliffs | East Caithness Cliffs MPA is designated for the biodiversity feature: Black guillemots.<br>The MPA encompasses nearshore waters off the coast between Wick and Helmsdale used for foraging by over 1,500 breeding black guillemots. | 48 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be affected by NNS and pathogens released in ballast water. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Seabirds may travel to the area to feed. Black guillemots can forage up to 55 km (Birdlife International, 2010). However due to the distances between the site and Proposed transfer locations it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted. | **No** |
| SSSI | Easter Fearn | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland birch woodland | 25.9 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Gamrie and Pennan Coast | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Guillemot (*Uria aalge*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Seabird colony, breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Razorbill (*Alca torda*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Puffin (*Fratercula arctica*), breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*), breeding | 86.6 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted; as features are either terrestrial or their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Gannet (*Morus bassanus*), breeding<br>Quaternary geology and geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland<br>Structural and metamorphic geology: Dalradian<br>Supralittoral rock (Coast): Maritime cliff | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Breeding seabirds may travel to the area to feed, however due to the distances between the site and transfer area it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted.<br>Foraging distances:<br>Guillemot (breeding) are maximum of 135 km and mean of 37 km.<br>Kittiwake (breeding) are maximum of 120 km and mean of 25 km.<br>Razorbill (breeding) are maximum of 95 km and mean of 23 km.<br>Puffin (breeding) are maximum of 200 km and mean of 4 km.<br>Fulmar (breeding) are maximum of 580 km and mean of 47 km.<br>Gannet (breeding) are maximum of 590 km mean of 92 km. | **No** |
| SSSI | Garbh Allt | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland birch woodland | 45.8 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Hill of Warehouse | Qualifying features:<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Hydromorphological mire range<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Valley fen | 83.1 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as features are terrestrial. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| Ramsar | Inner Moray Firth | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Redshank (*Tringa totanus*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*), non-breeding<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Intertidal mudflats and sandflats<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dune<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Shingle | 6.1 km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh and Intertidal mudflats and sandflats. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SPA | Inner Moray Firth | Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species during the breeding season:<br>• Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*), 310 pairs representing at least 2.5% of the breeding population in Great Britain<br>• Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), 4 pairs representing at least 4.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain<br>Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species over winter:<br>• Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), 1,155 individuals representing at least 2.2% of the wintering population in Great Britain | 6.1 km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance migratory species over winter:<br>• Greylag Goose (*Anser anser)*, 1,731 individuals representing at least 1.7% of the wintering Iceland/UK/Ireland population<br>• Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator)*, 1,731 individuals representing at least 1.4% of the wintering Northwestern/Central Europe population<br>• Redshank (*Tringa totanus)*, 1,811 individuals representing at least 1.2% of the wintering Eastern Atlantic - wintering population<br>• Scaup (*Aythya marila)*, 97 individuals representing <0.1% of the wintering Northern/Western Europe population<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) Assemblage qualification: A wetland of international importance. Over winter, the area regularly supports 33,148 individual waterfowl including:<br>Scaup (*Aythya marila)*, Curlew (*Numenius arquata)*, Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus)*, Goosander (*Mergus merganser)*, Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula)*, Teal (*Anas crecca)*, Wigeon (*Anas penelope)*, Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo)*, Redshank (*Tringa totanus)*, Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator)*, Greylag Goose (*Anser anser)*, Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica)*.<br><br>With adjacent estuarine areas elsewhere in the Moray Firth, this site is the most northerly major wintering area for wildfowl and waders in Europe. | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could be impacted by oil spill. Wildfowl and waders feed on the intertidal areas.<br>Foraging distances for common tern (breeding) are maximum of 30 km and mean of 4.5 km. Therefore these qualifying species have the potential to be within the vicinity. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Knockinnon Heath | Qualifying features:<br>Dwarf shrub heath: Lowland dry heath | 67.5 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Langwell Water | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland birch woodland | 55.5 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Ledmore Wood | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland oak woodland | 27.2 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| Ramsar | Loch Eye | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Whooper swan (*Cygnus cygnus*), non-breeding | 10.3 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Qualifying interests are known to feed in the Cromarty Firth and may travel to the area and could be impacted by an oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SPA | Loch Eye | Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations over winter:<br>• Whooper Swan (*Cygnus Cygnus*), 213 individuals representing at least 3.9% of the wintering population in Great Britain (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6) | 10.3 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance migratory species, over winter:<br>• Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*,) 11,321 individuals representing at least 11.3% of the wintering Iceland/UK/Ireland population (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)<br><br>In winter, the loch is an important roosting site for internationally important numbers of waterbirds. The waterbirds using Loch Eye move on a regular basis between the loch and the nearby Dornoch and Cromarty Firths where there are abundant feeding opportunities, although the geese feed in surrounding areas of agricultural land outside the SPA. | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Qualifying interests are known to feed in the Cromarty Firth and may travel to the area and could be impacted by an oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Loch Eye | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Whooper swan (*Cygnus cygnus*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding<br>Standing open water and canals: Eutrophic loch | 10.3 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Qualifying interests are known to feed in the Cromarty Firth and may travel to the area and could be impacted by an oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Loch Fleet | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Eider (*Somateria mollissima*), non-breeding<br>Birds - assemblages of breeding birds: Breeding bird assemblage<br>Coniferous woodland: Native pinewood<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Eelgrass beds<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Sandflats<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dunes<br>Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage | 24.3 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh, eelgrass beds and sandflats. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SPA | Loch Flemington | Article 4.1 of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance during the breeding season:<br>• Slavonian Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*), 5 pairs representing at least 7.1% of the breeding population in Great Britain (5 year mean, 1991-1995). | 12.5 km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could be impacted by oil spill. Slavonian Grebes are found in Cromarty Firth and may be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| Ramsar | Loch Maree | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Standing open water and canals: Oligotrophic loch | 80.3 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| Ramsar | Loch Ruthven | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Slavonian grebe (*Podiceps auritus*), breeding | 40.7 km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Unlikely.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as Slavonian Grebe are unlikey to travel from the site to the impacted area and be affected by oil spill. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ramsar | Loch Spynie | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Open water transition fen<br>Standing open water and canals: Eutrophic loch | 34.7 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted; as features are either terrestrial or their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Greylag goose are found on coastal areas in addition to inland water bodies. Due to the distances between the site and transfer locations it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted. | **No** |
| SSSI | Loch Spynie | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding<br>Birds - assemblages of breeding birds: Breeding bird assemblage<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Wet woodland<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Grassland): Fen meadow<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Open water transition fen<br>Standing open water and canals: Eutrophic loch | 34.7 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No**. Qualifying interests would not be impacted; as features are either terrestrial or their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Greylag goose are found on coastal areas in addition to inland water bodies. Due to the distances between the site and transfer locations it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SSSI | Longman and Castle Stuart Bays | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Redshank (*Tringa totanus*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Wigeon (*Anas penelope*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*), non-breeding<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Eelgrass beds<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Mudflats | 14.7km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh, eelgrass beds and mudflats. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill.<br>Foraging distances for Cormorant (breeding) are maximum of 35 and mean of 5 km. Therefore these qualifying species have the potential to be within the vicinity. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Loth Gorge | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland birch woodland | 41.1 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Lower River Conon | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Wet woodland<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Open water transition fen<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh | 26.4 km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to the saltmarsh habitat. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Lower River Spey | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Wet woodland<br>Geomorphology: Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland<br>Rivers and streams: River shingle/sand | 46.6 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Unlikely.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as are freshwater habitats and therefore unlikely to be impacted by NNS found in ballast water. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Unlikely**. Qualifying habitats are unlikely to be affected by an oil spill due to the distance from the site to the proposed transfer locations. | **No** |
| SAC | Lower River Spey – Spey Bay | Annex I Habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:<br>• Perennial vegetation of stony banks<br>• Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) * Priority feature | 38.5 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as all features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as all features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Migdale Rock | Qualifying features:<br>Coniferous woodland: Native pinewood<br>Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage | 29.2 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as all features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as all features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| SPA | Moray and Nairn Coast | Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species during the breeding season:<br>• Osprey Pandion haliaetus, 7 pairs representing at least 7.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain<br>Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species over winter:<br>• Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica)*, 1,156 individuals representing at least 2.2% of the wintering population in Great Britain<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of | 8.5 km (from Anchorage 17) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | European importance migratory species over winter:<br>• Greylag Goose (*Anser anser)*, 2,679 individuals representing at least 2.7% of the wintering Iceland/UK/Ireland population<br>• Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus)*, 139 individuals representing <0.1% of the wintering Eastern Greenland/Iceland/UK population<br>• Redshank (*Tringa totanus)*, 1,690 individuals representing at least 1.1% of the wintering Eastern Atlantic - wintering population<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) Assemblage qualification: A wetland of international importance<br>Over winter, the area regularly supports 20,250 individual waterfowl including: Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus)*, Dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina)*, Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus)*, Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator)*, Velvet Scoter (*Melanitta fusca)*, Common Scoter (*Melanitta nigra)*, Long-tailed duck (*Clangula hyemalis)*, Wigeon (*Anas penelope)*, Redshank (*Tringa totanus)*, Greylag Goose (*Anser anser)*, Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica)*.<br><br>The geese feed away from the SPA on surrounding agricultural land during the day. The sea-ducks feed, loaf and roost over inundated intertidal areas within the site, but also away from the SPA in the open waters of the Moray Firth. | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill.<br>Sea-ducks feed and loaf in the open waters of the Moray Firth. | **Yes** |
| Ramsar | Moray and Nairn Coast | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Pink-footed goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), | 8.5 km (from Anchorage 17) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh and Intertidal mudflats and sandflats. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Redshank (*Tringa totanus*), non-breeding<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Wet woodland<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Intertidal mudflats and sandflats<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dune<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Shingle | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| Draft SPA | Moray Firth | Qualifying bird species in the Moray Firth marine dSPA.<br>Annex 1 species:<br>• Great northern diver<br>• Red-throated diver<br>• Slavonian grebe<br>Migratory species:<br>• Scaup<br>• Common eider<br>• Long-tailed duck<br>• Common scoter<br>• Velvet scoter<br>• Common goldeneye<br>• Red-breasted merganser<br>• European shag | Within | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Foraging ranges for red-throated diver (breeding) are 9 km maximum and 4.5 km mean. Therefore these qualifying species have the potential to be within the vicinity. | **Yes** |
| SAC | Moray Firth | Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:<br>• Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time<br>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:<br>• Bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncates)* | Within | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS and pathogens could cause important ecological consequences to sandbanks. Bottlenose dolphin could also be affected by pathogens. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | The Moray Firth supports the only known resident population of bottlenose dolphin *Tursiops truncatus* in the North Sea. The population is estimated to be around 130 individuals (Wilson et al. 1999). Dolphins are present all year round, and, while they range widely in the Moray Firth, they appear to favour particular areas. | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Bottlenose dolphins and sandbanks could be impacted by oil pollution. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Morrich More | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Teal (*Anas crecca*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Wigeon (*Anas penelope*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Curlew (*Numenius arquata*), non-breeding<br>Birds - assemblages of breeding birds: Breeding bird assemblage<br>Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Other invertebrates: Invertebrate assemblage<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dunes<br>Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage | 12.4 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Mound Alderwoods | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - assemblages of breeding birds: Breeding bird assemblage<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Wet woodland<br>Inshore sublittoral sediment (Marine): Saline lagoon | 29.9 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to the saline lagoon. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. | **Yes** |
| Ramsar | Muir of Dinnet | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding | 87.2 km (from Anchorage 17) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Unlikely.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as Greylag goose are unlikey to travel from the site to the impacted area and be affected by oil spill. | **No** |
| SSSI | Munlochy Bay | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Wigeon (*Anas penelope*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Greylag goose (*Anser anser*), non-breeding<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Mudflats | 17.7 km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh and mudflats. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species (geese and ducks) could potentially be affected by an oil spill. Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SPA | North Caithness Cliffs | Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance Annex I species during the breeding season:<br>• Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus)*, 6 pairs representing at least 0.5% of the breeding population in Great Britain<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance migratory species during the breeding season:<br>• Guillemot (*Uria aalge)*, 26,994 pairs representing at least 1.2% of the breeding East Atlantic population<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) Assemblage qualification: A seabird assemblage of international importance:<br>During the breeding season, the area regularly supports 110,000 individual seabirds including: Puffin (*Fratercula arctica)*, Razorbill (*Alca torda)*, Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla)*, Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis)*, Guillemot (*Uria aalge)*.<br><br>The seabirds nesting on the North Caithness Cliffs feed outside the SPA in the surrounding waters of the Pentland Firth, as well as further afield. | 95.3 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Bird species are known to feed in the surrounding waters, however due to the distances between the site and proposed transfer locaions it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted.<br>Foraging distances for Guillemot (breeding) are maximum of 135 km and mean of 37 km. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SPA | North Sutherland Coastal Islands | Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance, over winter:<br>• Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis),* 631 individuals representing at least 2.3% of the wintering population in Great Britain (4 year peak mean, 1992/3-1995/6)<br><br>The birds roost and feed on both islands, as well as on other small islands outside the SPA, and on agriculturally improved land on the nearby mainland. | 97.8 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Unlikely.** Designated for Barnacle Goose, who feed on both islands, as well as other small islands outside the SPA. Qualifying features would not be impacted as geese are unlikely to travel to the transfer location. | **No** |
| SSSI | Ousdale Burn | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland birch woodland | 52.4 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SAC | River Oykel | Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:<br>• Freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*)<br>Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:<br>• Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) | 33 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** The interest features of Atlantic salmon may travel across the proposed transfer area when migrating to/from spawning river and be affected by pathogens. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** The interest features of Atlantic salmon may travel across the proposed transfer area when migrating to/from spawning river and be affected by an oil spill. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SPA | Priest Island (Summer Isles) | Article 4.1 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance during the breeding season:<br>• Storm Petrel (*Hydrobates pelagicus*), 2,200 pairs representing at least 2.6% of the breeding population in Great Britain (Count, as at 1995).<br><br>These species feed outside the SPA in surrounding and more distant marine areas. | 96 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Bird species are known to feed outside the SPA in surrounding waters and more distant marine areas, however due to the distances between the site and proposed transfer locations it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted. Foraging distances for Storm Petrel (breeding) more than 65 km. | **No** |
| SSSI | Reisgill Burn | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Scrub | 74.6 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SAC | River Spey | Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:<br>• Fish: Sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*)<br>• Fish: Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*)<br>• Mammals: Otter (*Lutra lutra*)<br>• Other invertebrates: Freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) | 45.7 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** The interest features of Atlantic salmon and sea lamprey may travel across the proposed transfer area when migrating to/from spawning river and be affected by pathogens. Otters may also be affected by pathogens. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** The interest features of Atlantic salmon and sea lamprey may travel across the proposed transfer area when migrating to/from spawning river and be affected by an oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | River Spey | Qualifying features:<br>Fish: Sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*)<br>Fish: Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*)<br>Mammals: Otter (*Lutra lutra*)<br>Other invertebrates: Freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) | 45.7 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** The interest features of Atlantic salmon and sea lamprey may travel across the proposed transfer area when migrating to/from spawning river and be affected by pathogens. Otters may also be affected by pathogens. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** The interest features of Atlantic salmon and sea lamprey may travel across the proposed transfer area when migrating to/from spawning river and be affected by an oil spill. | **Yes** |
| Ramsar | River Spey - Insh Marshes | Ramsar Site Qualifying Feature category and Features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Whooper swan (*Cygnus cygnus*), non-breeding<br>Birds - assemblages of breeding birds: Breeding bird assemblage<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Flood-plain fen<br>Rivers and streams: Trophic range river/stream<br>Standing open water and canals: Mesotrophic loch | 47.9 km (from Anchorage 17) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted; as features are either terrestrial or the conservation objectives for the qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Designated for Whooper swan, unlikely to travel to the area and be impacted by an oil spill. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SSSI | Rosemarkie to Shandwick Coast | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*), breeding<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland birch woodland<br>Palaeontology: Mesozoic Palaeobotany<br>Stratigraphy: Callovian<br>Structural and metamorphic geology: Moine<br>Supralittoral rock (Coast): Maritime cliff<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dunes<br>Vascular plants: Purple oxytropis (*Oxytropis halleri*) | 1.2 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted; as features are either terrestrial or the conservation objectives for the qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species could potentially be affected by an oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Shielton Peatlands | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - assemblages of breeding birds: Breeding bird assemblage<br>Bogs (Upland): Blanket bog | 78.5 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted; as features are either terrestrial or the conservation objectives for the qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Unlikely.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as features are either terrestrial or designated for breeding birds of prey, waders and waterfowl, which are unlikely to travel to the area and be impacted by an oil spill. | **No** |
| NC MPA Proposal | Southern Trench | Southern Trench NC MPA proposal has been proposed for the following Biodiversity features:<br>Burrowed mud<br>Fronts<br>Minke whale<br>Shelf deeps | 52.1 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to habitats. Minke whale may also be affected by pathogens. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Mobile species (minke whale) could potentially be affected by an oil spill. | **Yes** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SSSI | Spey Bay | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Wet woodland<br>Butterflies: Small blue (*Cupido minimus*)<br>Butterflies: Dingy skipper (*Erynnis tages*)<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Hydromorphological mire range<br>Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland<br>Littoral sediment: (Coast) Saltmarsh<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Shingle<br>Vascular plants: Vascular plant assemblage | 38.6 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to the saltmarsh habitat. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Qualifying habitats could be impacted by oil spill. | **Yes** |
| SSSI | Spinningdale Bog | Qualifying features:<br>Fen, marsh and swamp (Wetland): Valley fen | 28.3 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as feature is terrestrial. | **No** |
| SSSI | Strath Carnaig and Strath Fleet Moors | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of breeding birds: Hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), breeding | 26.8 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as the conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Unlikely.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as Hen harriers are unlikely to travel to the area and be affected by oil spill. | **No** |
| SSSI | Tarbat Ness | Qualifying features:<br>Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland<br>Stratigraphy: Non-marine Devonian<br>Supralittoral rock (Coast): Maritime cliff | 17.1 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as features are terrestrial. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SPA | Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor | Article 4.2 qualification of the Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance migratory species, during the breeding season:<br>• Common Gull *(Larus canus*), 18,000 pairs representing at least 14.5% of the breeding West and Central Europe population (1998). | 60.1 km (from Anchorage 17) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Common gulls do not travel far enough therefore unlikely that qualifying interests would be impacted. Foraging distances for common gull (breeding) are 50 km maximum and 25 mean. | **No** |
| SSSI | Tore of Troup | Qualifying features:<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland mixed ash woodland<br>Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland: Upland birch woodland<br>Mosaic: Upland assemblage | 94 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as all interest features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as all interest features are terrestrial. | **No** |
| SPA | Troup, Pennan and Lion`s Heads | Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) supporting populations of European importance migratory species during the breeding season:<br>• Guillemot Uria aalge, 29,902 pairs representing at least 1.3% of the breeding East Atlantic population<br>Article 4.2 qualification of Directive (79/409/EEC) Assemblage qualification: A | 90.6 km (from Anchorage 18a) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |

| Designation | Site Name | Designating features and comments | Distance to STS transfer locations | Likelihood of interaction between proposed transfers and receptor | | Potential for significant effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | seabird assemblage of international importance:<br>During the breeding season, the area regularly supports 150,000 individual seabirds including: Razorbill (*Alca torda)*, Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla)*, Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus)*, Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis)*, Guillemot (*Uria aalge)*.<br><br>The cliffs rise to 150 m and provide ideal nesting sites for seabirds, which feed in the rich waters offshore and outside the SPA. | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Bird species are known to feed in the surrounding waters, however due to the distances between the site and proposed transfer locations it is considered unlikely that the birds will travel to the area of oil spill and for the population of qualifying species to be significantly impacted. Foraging distances for Guillemot (breeding) are maximum of 135 km and mean of 37 km. | **Yes** |
| SPA | Wester Ross Lochs | Article 4.1 of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive: During the breeding season:<br>• Black-throated Diver (*Gavia arctica*), 8 pairs representing at least 5.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain | 76.8 km (from Anchorage 14) | **Ballast Water** | **No.** Qualifying interests would not be impacted as their conservation objectives for their qualifying interests would not be directly affected by NNS and pathogens. | **No** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Possible.** Black-throated Diver could potentially be affected by an oil spill. However site is located on the west coast of Scotland therefore it is unlikely that divers will travel to the impacted area. | **No** |
| SSSI | Whiteness Head | Qualifying features:<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), non-breeding<br>Birds - aggregations of non-breeding birds: Knot (*Calidris canutus*), non-breeding<br>Geomorphology: Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland<br>Littoral sediment (Coast): Saltmarsh<br>Littoral sediment (Marine): Sandflats<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Sand dunes<br>Supralittoral sediment (Coast): Shingle | 6.3 km (from Anchorage 16) | **Ballast Water** | **Likely.** Introduction of NNS could cause important ecological consequences to saltmarsh and sandflats. | **Yes** |
| | | | | **Oil Spill** | **Likely.** Wading birds and habitats could be impacted by an oil spill. | **Yes** |