

Supplementary Guidance: Natural Environment Annex 1

**Local Nature Conservation Sites, Local Nature Reserves
and un-notified Geological Conservation Review Sites**

March 2017

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Introduction

This document provides further detailed information on Orkney's Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS), set out in a suite of site statements. The locations of Local Nature Reserves and un-notified Geological Conservation Review sites are also mapped.

The Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS) have been identified on account of either their biological or geological/geomorphological features or, alternatively, a combination of these features. Sites designated for their biological interest support natural habitats and species that are recognised as priorities for conservation in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, the Scottish Biodiversity List and/or the Orkney Local Biodiversity Action Plan. The site statements contain a brief description of the area, along with information on the range of special habitats and wildlife found on-site. A phase 1 habitat survey map illustrates the location and extent of the habitats found within each site. Sites may also support additional species that have not yet been formally recorded.

Local Nature Reserves (LNR) are areas of locally important natural heritage, designated and managed by local authorities to give people better opportunities to learn about and enjoy nature.

Geological Conservation Review (GCR) sites represent the best geological and geomorphological features of Britain. Most of Orkney's GCRs are designated as geological features within Sites of Special Scientific Interest, others are designated as LNCS and the remaining sites are described as un-notified GCRs.

How to use this guidance

Each LNCS can be identified either by site name on the Site List where they are set out in alphabetical order, or by locating the site on Maps 1-5. LNRs and un-notified GCRs may be identified from the legend on each map.

Applicants for planning permission are encouraged to refer to this guidance at the earliest opportunity, as it contains important details on natural heritage features which should be taken into account when planning a development. Where a development proposal is likely to affect a LNCS, LNR or GCR, this information should inform decisions relating to the design, scale and location of the proposal. Pre-application advice can be sought from the planning authority, to consider how development might be most effectively accommodated within a site. Advice can also be provided regarding the natural heritage information that would be required to support the submission of a planning application.

In addition to the information provided in the site statements, the Orkney Wildlife Information and Records Centre may hold further natural heritage information of relevance to LNCS:

Orkney Wildlife Information and Records Centre, Orkney Library and Archive, 44 Junction Road, Kirkwall, Orkney KW15 1AG.

Telephone: 01856 873026 Email: biodiversity@orkney.gov.uk

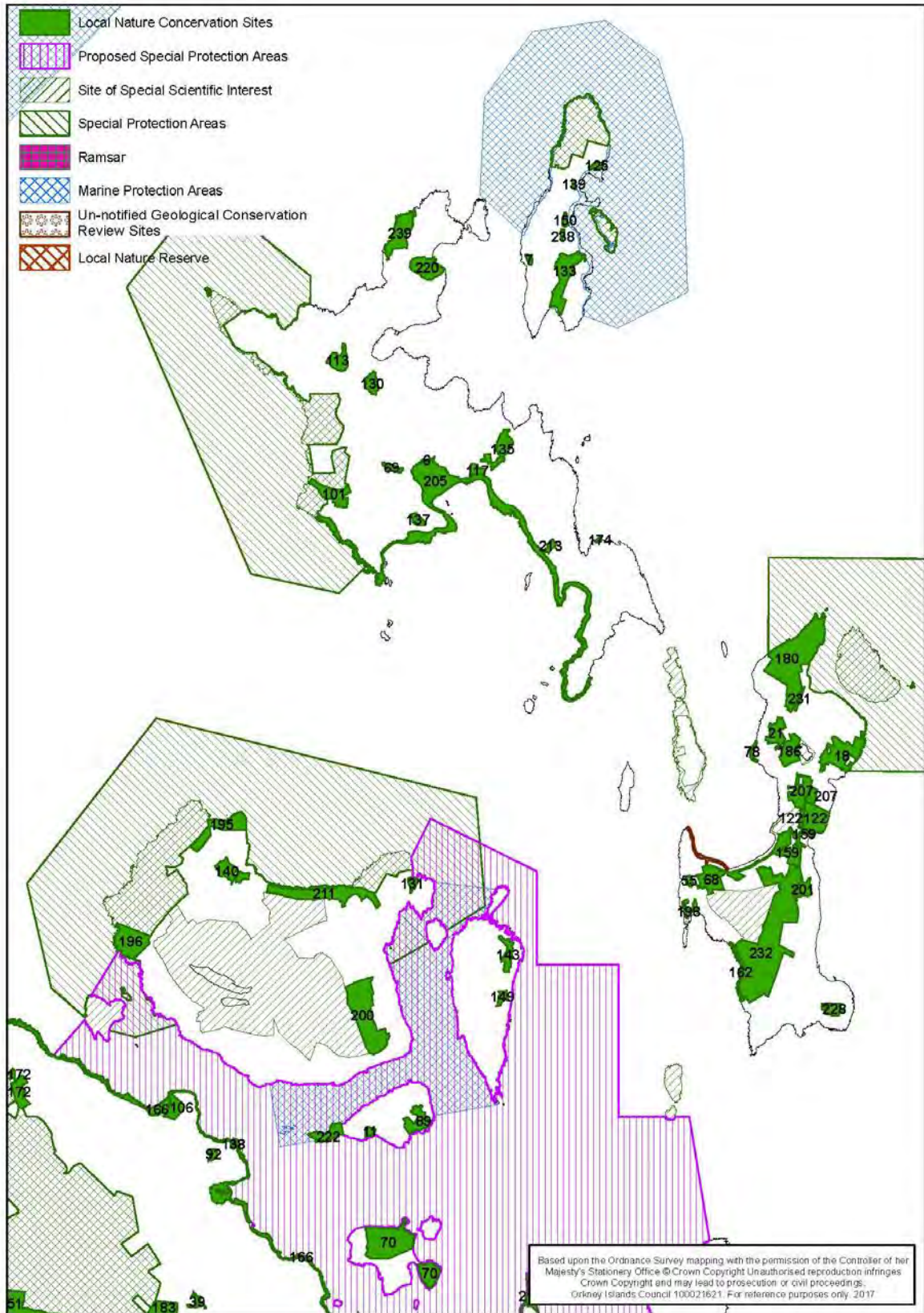
Special Habitats

Aeolianite.	Machair.
Basin bog.	Maritime cliff and slopes.
Blanket bog.	Maritime grassland.
Burns and canalised burns.	Maritime heath.
Coastal saltmarsh.	Mesotrophic lakes (lochs).
Coastal sand dunes.	Oligotrophic and dystrophic lakes (lochs).
Coastal strandline.	Ponds.
Coastal vegetated shingle.	Purple moorgrass and rush pastures.
Conifer plantation.	Reedbeds.
Empetrum heath.	Saline lagoons.
Eutrophic standing waters.	Species-rich heath.
Inland rock and scree outcrops.	Treeless woodland and dales.
Intertidal mud flats.	Upland birchwoods.
Lichen heath.	Upland calcareous grassland.
Links.	Upland flushes, fens and swamps.
Lowland calcareous grassland.	Upland heathland.
Lowland dry acid grassland.	Upland willow scrub.
Lowland fens.	Wet woodlands.
Lowland meadows.	N/A.

Bold = UK Biodiversity Action Plan and Scottish Biodiversity List priority habitat

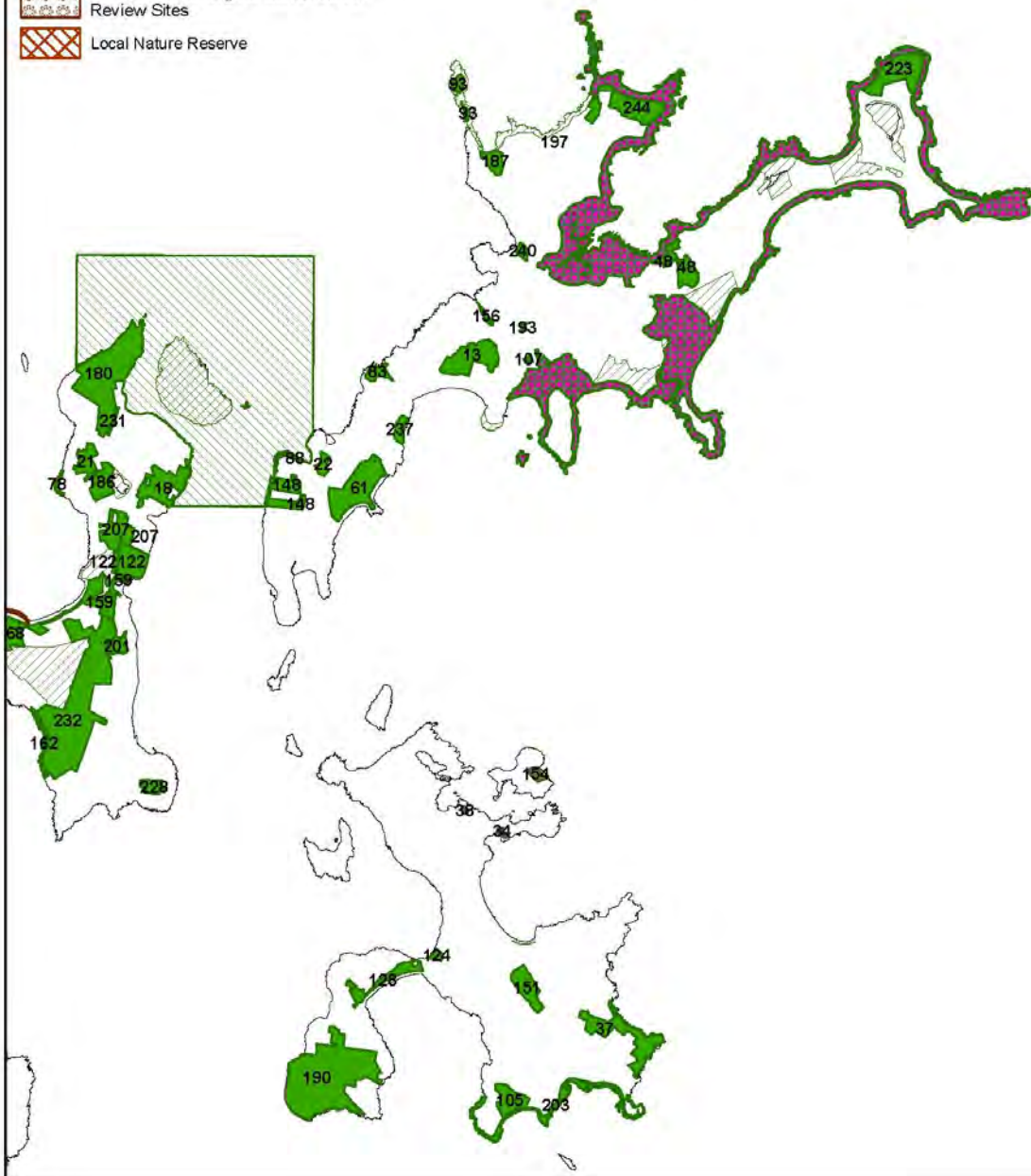
Regular = Locally important habitat (Orkney LBAP)

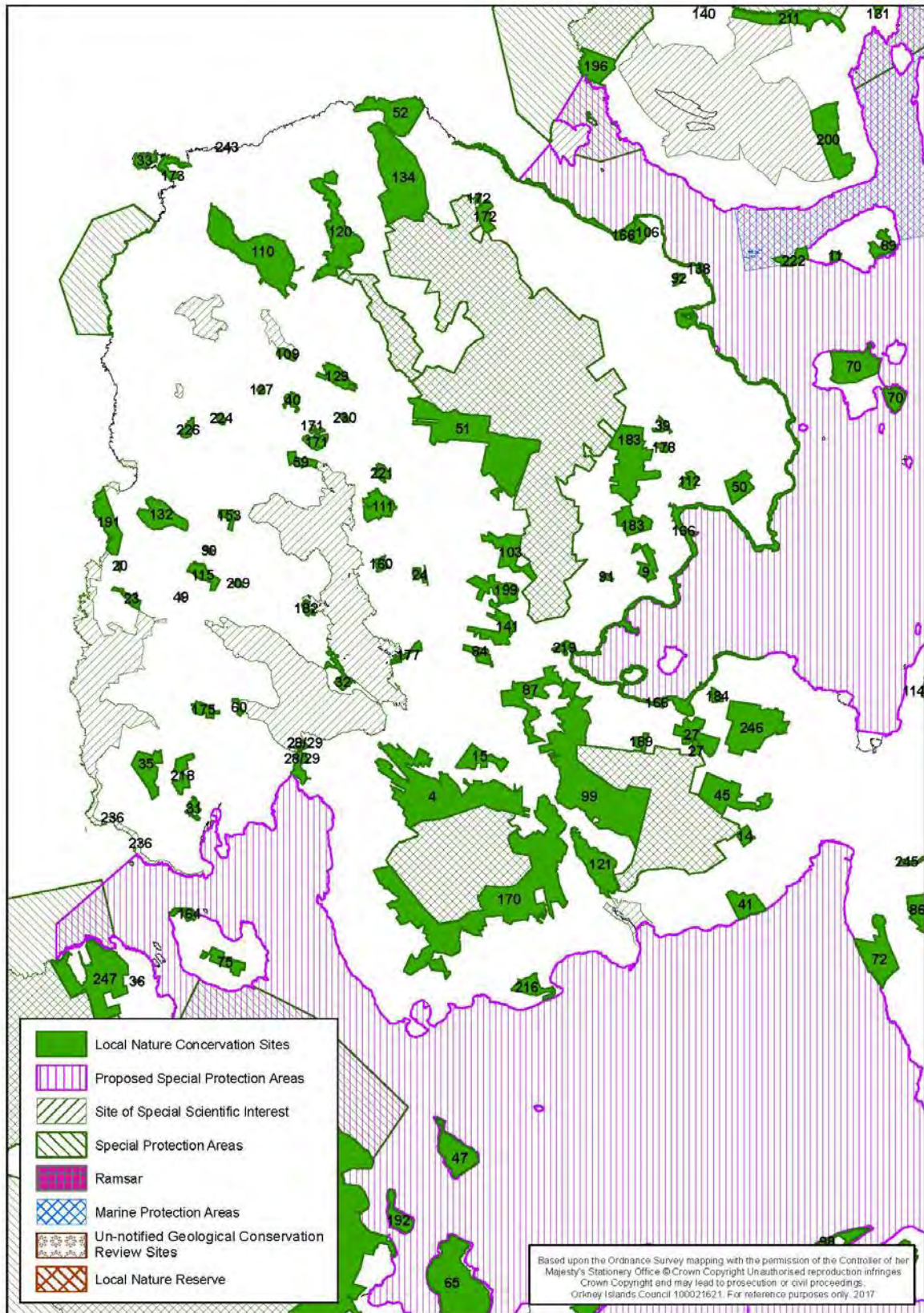
Overview Maps

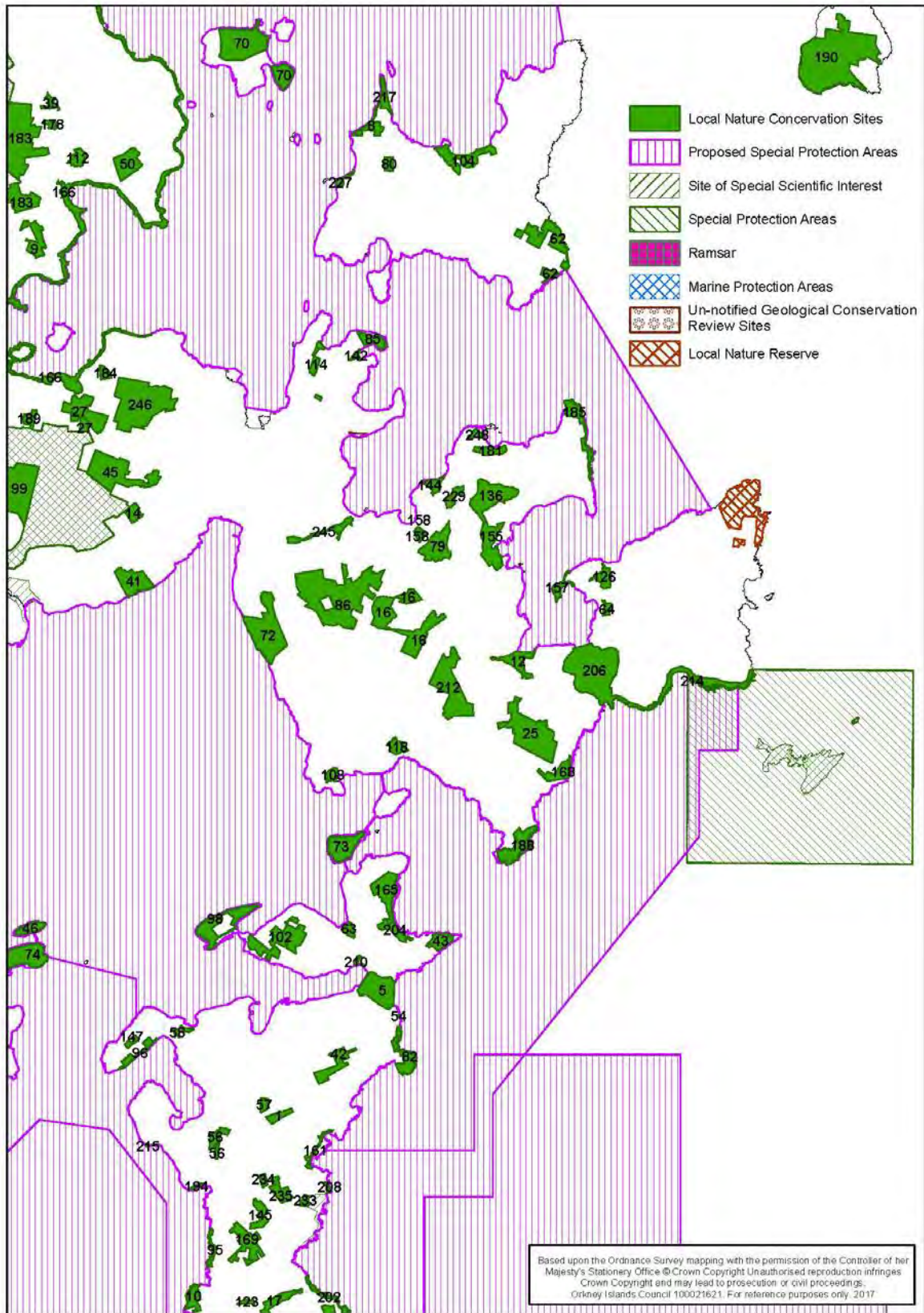


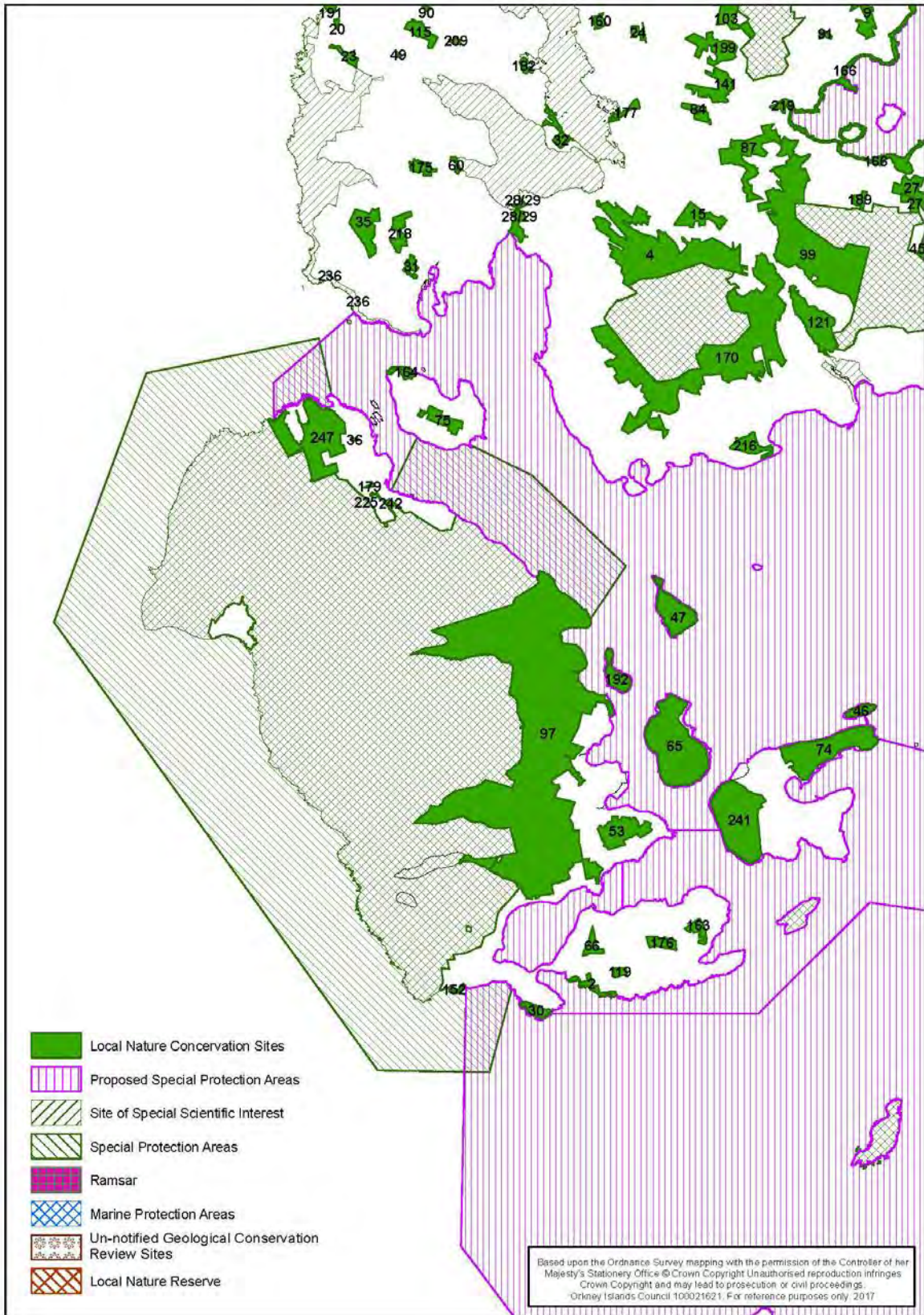
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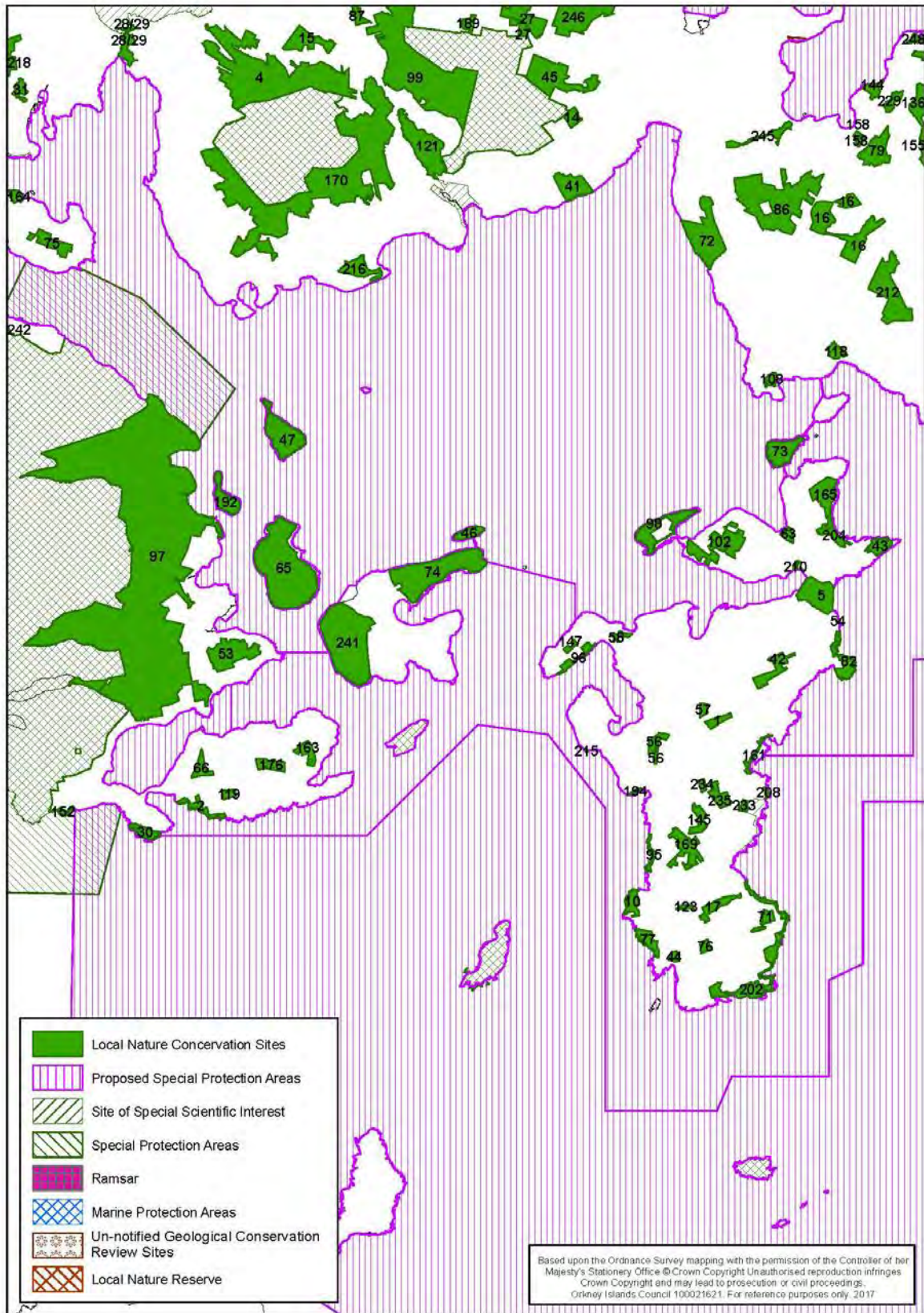
-  Local Nature Conservation Sites
-  Proposed Special Protection Areas
-  Site of Special Scientific Interest
-  Special Protection Areas
-  Ramsar
-  Marine Protection Areas
-  Un-notified Geological Conservation Review Sites
-  Local Nature Reserve












Key to Local Nature Conservation Sites:

	A1.1.1 semi-natural broad-leaved woodland		F2.2 inundation vegetation
	A1.1.2 plantation broad-leaved woodland		G1 standing water
	A1.2.2 plantation coniferous woodland		G1.1 eutrophic standing water
	A1.3.2 plantation mixed woodland		G1.2 mesotrophic standing water
	A2 scrub		G1.3 oligotrophic standing water
	A2.1 dense/continuous scrub		G1.6 Brackish standing water
	A2.2 scattered scrub		G2 running water
	B1 acid grassland		G2.6 brackish running water
	B1.1 unimproved acid grassland		H1 intertidal
	B1.2 semi-improved acid grassland		H1.1 mud/sand Intertidal
	B2 neutral grassland		H1.2 shingle/cobbles intertidal
	B2.1 unimproved neutral grassland		H1.3 boulder/rocks
	B2.2 semi-improved neutral grassland		H2 saltmarsh
	B3.1 unimproved calcareous grassland		H2.4 scattered plants saltmarsh
	B3.2 semi-improved calcareous grassland		H2.6 dense continuous saltmarsh
	B4 improved grassland		H3 shingle above high tide mark
	B5 marsh/marshy grassland		H4 Boulders/rocks above high tide mark
	B6 poor semi-improved grassland		H4.6 dune slack
	C1.1 continuous bracken		H5 strandline vegetation
	C1.2 scattered bracken		H6 sand dune
	C3.1 tall ruderal		H6.4 dune slack
	C3.2 non-ruderal		H6.5 coastal grassland
	D1 dry dwarf shrub heath		H6.5 dune grassland
	D1.1 acid dry dwarf shrub heath		H6.6 dune heath
	D1.2 basic dry dwarf shrub heath		H6.7 dune scrub
	D2 wet dwarf shrub heath		H6.8 open dune
	D3 lichen/bryophyte heath		H8.2 soft cliff
	D5 dry heath/acid grassland mosaic		H8.3 crevice/ledge vegetation
	D6 wet heath/acid grassland mosaic		H8.4 coastal grassland
	E1.6 sphagnum bog		H8.5 coastal heathland
	E1.6.1 blanket bog		I1.1 inland cliff
	E1.7 wet modified bog		I1.4 other exposure
	E1.8 dry modified bog		I2.1 Quarry
	E1.9 peat banks/marshy grassland mosaic		I2.2 basic scree
	E2 flush and spring		I2.4 refuse-tip
	E2.1 acid/neutral flush		I4 other exposure
	E2.2 basic flush		J1.1 arable
	E3 fen		J1.2 amenity grassland
	E3.1 valley mire		J1.4 introduced shrub
	E3.2 basin mire		J2.6 Dry ditch
	E4 bare peat		J3.6 buildings
	F1 swamp		J4 bare ground
	F2.1 marginal vegetation		

Site Statements and Maps