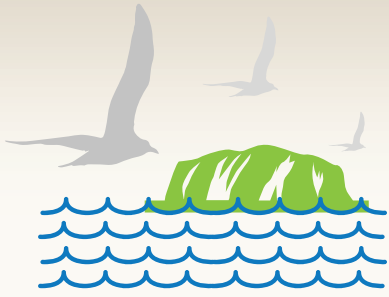


BENEFITS



Plants and animals

Scotland has internationally important numbers of 24 species of breeding seabirds



Tourism and recreation

Tourism based on Scotland's landscapes is estimated to be worth **£420 million** a year to the economy

Natural lochs, boreholes & springs



Man-made reservoirs, rivers & burns

Drinking water

Two thirds of Scotland's public water supply comes from man-made reservoirs, rivers and burns. The rest is taken from natural lochs, boreholes and springs

PRESSURES



Invasive Non-Native Species

Giant hogweed is abundant by rivers and competes for space with native bankside species



Urbanisation

It is estimated that land claim has led to the loss of 45 - 55 % of the Forth estuary's intertidal areas over the last 400 years



Agriculture

The condition of the beds, banks and shores of 22 % of Scotland's rivers, estuaries and coastal waters has been adversely affected by land use and pressures such as overgrazing

IMPACTS



Floods and droughts

Effects of climate change, such as higher temperatures and more frequent weather extremes leading to flooding and droughts are already happening



Rural diffuse pollution

Diffuse pollution from agriculture and forestry can harm aquatic plants and animals. Populations of the rare slender naiad plant have suffered as a result of nutrient enrichment in some Scottish lochs



Urban diffuse pollution

Runoff from hard surfaces in urban areas may be contaminated with oil, petrol and toxic metals from cars. This can be washed into drains, polluting nearby watercourses