

# NATURA 2000

## STANDARD DATA FORM

FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS (SPA)  
FOR SITES ELIGIBLE FOR IDENTIFICATION AS SITES OF COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE (SCI)  
AND  
FOR SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION (SAC)

### 1. Site identification:

1.1 Type  1.2 Site code

1.3 Compilation date  1.4 Update

#### 1.5 Relationship with other Natura 2000 sites

U	K	0	0	1	2	6	4	2
U	K	0	0	1	3	0	0	7
U	K	0	0	1	3	0	3	0
U	K	0	0	3	0	2	0	3

1.6 Respondent(s)

1.7 Site name

#### 1.8 Site indication and designation classification dates

date site proposed as eligible as SCI	
date confirmed as SCI	
date site classified as SPA	199507
date site designated as SAC	

### 2. Site location:

#### 2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
03 02 57 W	51 13 29 N

2.2 Site area (ha)  2.3 Site length (km)

#### 2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK611	Avon	25.04%
UK612	Gloucestershire	21.03%
UK921	Gwent	26.04%
UK632	Somerset	24.04%
UK923	South Glamorgan	4.01%

#### 2.6 Biogeographic region

Alpine

Atlantic

Boreal

Continental

Macaronesia

Mediterranean

### 3. Ecological information:

#### 3.1 Annex I habitats

Habitat types present on the site and the site assessment for them:

Annex I habitat	% cover	Representativity	Relative surface	Conservation status	Global assessment

#### 3.2 Annex I birds and regularly occurring migratory birds not listed on Annex I

Code	Species name	Population			Site assessment			
		Resident	Migratory		Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global
			Breed	Winter				
A051	<i>Anas strepera</i>		282 I		B		C	
A041a	<i>Anser albifrons albifrons</i>		2664 I		A		B	
A149	<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>		44624 I		B		C	
A037	<i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>		280 I		B		C	
A048	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		3330 I		B		C	
A162	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		2330 I		B		C	

### 4. Site description:

#### 4.1 General site character

Habitat classes	% cover
Marine areas. Sea inlets	
Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	89.0
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	6.0
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	4.0
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	
Dry grassland. Steppes	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	
Improved grassland	1.0
Other arable land	
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	
Coniferous woodland	
Evergreen woodland	
Mixed woodland	
Non-forest areas cultivated with woody plants (including orchards, groves, vineyards, dehesas)	
Inland rocks. Screes. Sands. Permanent snow and ice	
Other land (including towns, villages, roads, waste places, mines, industrial sites)	
<b>Total habitat cover</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 4.1 Other site characteristics

### Soil & geology:

Biogenic reef, Clay, Cobble, Gravel, Limestone/chalk, Mud, Peat, Sand, Sandstone/mudstone, Sedimentary, Shingle

### Geomorphology & landscape:

Cliffs, Estuary, Intertidal rock, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Islands, Open coast (including bay), Pools, Subtidal rock (including rocky reefs), Subtidal sediments (including sandbank/mudbank), Tidal rapids

## 4.2 Quality and importance

### ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

#### Over winter the area regularly supports:

<i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> (Western Siberia/North-eastern & North-western Europe)	3.9% of the GB population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
--	---

### ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

#### Over winter the area regularly supports:

<i>Anas strepera</i> (North-western Europe)	0.9% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Anser albifrons albifrons</i> (North-western Siberia/North-eastern & North-western Europe)	0.4% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> (Northern Siberia/Europe/Western Africa)	3.3% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (North-western Europe)	1.1% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Tringa totanus</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering)	1.3% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96

### ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC): AN INTERNATIONALLY IMPORTANT ASSEMBLAGE OF BIRDS

#### Over winter the area regularly supports:

84317 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 01/04/1998)

#### Including:

*Cygnus columbianus bewickii* , *Anser albifrons albifrons* , *Tadorna tadorna* , *Anas strepera* , *Calidris alpina alpina* , *Tringa totanus* .

### 4.3 Vulnerability

The conservation of the site features is dependent on the tidal regime. The range is the second highest in the world and the scouring of the seabed and strong tidal streams result in natural erosion of the habitats. The estuary is therefore vulnerable to large scale interference, including human actions. These include land-claim, aggregate extraction/dredging, physical developments such as barrage construction flood defences, pollution (industrial, oil spillage), eutrophication and tourism based activities and disturbance. These issues are being addressed through existing control measures and as part of the Severn Estuary Strategy.

Since June 1995 the Severn Estuary Strategy has been working towards the sustainable management of the site, through the involvement of local authorities, interested parties and local people. This integrated approach is being further developed in conjunction with the SAC management scheme for the nature conservation interest of the estuary.

## 5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	9.0
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	100.2