

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	9	0	0	4	2	7	1
U	K	9	0	0	6	0	1	1
U	K	9	0	0	6	0	2	1

1.6 Respondent(s)

1.7 Site name

1.8 Site indication and designation classification dates

date site proposed as eligible as SCI	199610
date confirmed as SCI	200412
date site classified as SPA	
date site designated as SAC	200504

2. Site location:

2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
01 40 20 W	55 39 14 N

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

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UKA11	Borders	0.15%
UK131	Northumberland	1.45%
0	Marine	98.84%

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
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	0.5	D			
Estuaries	10	D			
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	8.94	A	B	A	A
Large shallow inlets and bays	7	C	C	B	B
Reefs	57.04	A	B	A	A
Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)	0.2	D			
Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	2.01	A	C	A	A

3.2 Annex II species

Species name	Population				Site assessment			
	Resident	Migratory			Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global
		Breed	Winter	Stage				
<i>Lutra lutra</i>	Present	-	-	-	D			
<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	501-1000	-	-	-	B	B	C	B

4. Site description

4.1 General site character

Habitat classes	% cover
Marine areas. Sea inlets	73.2
Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	13.4
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	1.3
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	4.5
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	6.7
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	0.5
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. Scree. Sands. Permanent snow and ice	
Other land (including towns, villages, roads, waste places, mines, industrial sites)	0.4
Total habitat cover	100%

4.1 Other site characteristics

Soil & geology:

Biogenic reef, Boulder, Igneous, Limestone, Limestone/chalk, Metamorphic, Mud, Sand, Sandstone, Slate/shale

Geomorphology & landscape:

Barrier beach, Cave/tunnel, Cliffs, Coastal, Estuary, Intertidal rock, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Islands, Open coast (including bay), Subtidal rock (including rocky reefs), Subtidal sediments (including sandbank/mudbank), Surge gullies

4.2 Quality and importance

Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide

- for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

Large shallow inlets and bays

- for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

Reefs

- for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

Submerged or partially submerged sea caves

- for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

Halichoerus grypus

- for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

4.3 Vulnerability

The varied geological sequence along the coast forms a mixture of cliffs, rocky shores and sandy bays that attract a variety of recreational users for angling, diving, watersports, etc. In the case of diving, the most popular areas are subject to a voluntary code of practice. Any difficulties arising from recreational activities would be addressed by the site management scheme.

The estuarine reef communities support an important crustacean fishery whilst offshore fisheries exist for *Nephrops* and some pelagic and demersal fish species. Wastewater discharges could have a localised effect on the site but will be subject to EC water quality legislation. Much of the inshore area in Scotland is a voluntary Marine Nature Reserve.

5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	0.1
UK00 (N/A)	99.7
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	0.3