

**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

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

1.6 Respondent(s)

1.7 Site name

## 1.8 Site indication and designation classification dates

date site proposed as eligible as SCI	199601
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
03 25 47 W	54 21 02 N

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

## 2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK12	Cumbria	100.00%

## 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
Estuaries	42.3	B	C	A	B

Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	49	C	C	A	C
Annual vegetation of drift lines	0.1	D			
<i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand	0.1	C	C	B	C
<i>Spartina</i> swards ( <i>Spartinion maritimae</i> )	0	D			
Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i> )	11.5	C	C	B	C
Embryonic shifting dunes	0.1	C	C	C	C
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes")	2.2	C	C	C	C
Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")	27.2	C	C	B	C
Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes ( <i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i> )	5	A	B	A	A
Dunes with <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>	1.1	D			
Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> ( <i>Salicion arenariae</i> )	2	A	B	A	A
Humid dune slacks	0.7	C	C	B	C

### 3.2 Annex II species

Species name	Population			Site assessment				
	Resident	Migratory			Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global
		Breed	Winter	Stage				
<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	11-50	-	-	-	D			

## 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)	44.5
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	12.0
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	41.0
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	2.0
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	0.5
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	
Dry grassland. Steppes	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	
Improved grassland	
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)	
<b>Total habitat cover</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 4.1 Other site characteristics

### Soil & geology:

Acidic, Cobble, Mud, Sand, Shingle

### Geomorphology & landscape:

Coastal, Estuary, Intertidal rock, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Open coast (including bay), Shingle bar, Subtidal sediments (including sandbank/mudbank)

## 4.2 Quality and importance

Estuaries

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

Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide

- for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.

*Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand

- for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.

Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)

- for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.

Embryonic shifting dunes

- which is considered to be rare as its total extent in the United Kingdom is estimated to be less than 1000 hectares.

- for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.

Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* ("white dunes")

- for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.

Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")

- for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.

Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicetea*)

- which is considered to be rare as its total extent in the United Kingdom is estimated to be less than 1000 hectares.

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

Dunes with *Salix repens* ssp. *argentea* (*Salicion arenariae*)

- which is considered to be rare as its total extent in the United Kingdom is estimated to be less than 1000 hectares.

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

Humid dune slacks

- for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.

## 4.3 Vulnerability

The estuary and sand dunes systems are still relatively 'natural' and there is no threat at present of any development that may affect estuarine processes. Much of the sand dune area is under Countryside Stewardship Agreements or as a Cumbrian Wildlife Trust Reserve. The vulnerability of the marine site will be further identified through English Nature's work to develop and promote the necessary conservation measures for UK marine SACs. English Nature has developed guidance on setting and reviewing conservation objectives, identified key human activities which may affect Annex I and Annex II interests, identified the necessary survey management and monitoring systems, and increased the awareness of those most closely involved in the use and management of marine SACs. English Nature's advice under Regulation 33 has been issued and a brief management scheme statement drafted.

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

### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	100.0