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 K **1.2 Site code** UK0013059

1.3 Compilation date 199601 **1.4 Update** 200101

1.5 Relationship with other Natura 2000 sites

U	K	9	0	1	2	0	9	1

1.6 Respondent(s) International Designations, JNCC, Peterborough

1.7 Site name **Dungeness**

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**
00 57 10 E	50 55 08 N

2.2 Site area (ha) 3223.56 **2.3 Site length (km)**

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK531	East Sussex	24.00%
UK57	Kent	76.00%

2.6 Biogeographic region

Alpine	Atlantic	Boreal	Continental	Macaronesia	Mediterranean
	X				

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
Coastal lagoons	0.1	D			

Annual vegetation of drift lines	0.3	B	B	A	**A**
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	70	A	A	A	**A**
Embryonic shifting dunes	0.1	D			
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* ("white dunes")	0.1	D			
Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae*	0	D			

3.2 Annex II species

	Population				Site assessment			
	Resident	Migratory						
Species name		**Breed**	**Winter**	**Stage**	**Population**	**Conservation**	**Isolation**	**Global**
Triturus cristatus	1001-10,000	-	-	-	C	B	C	**B**

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)	20.0
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	1.0
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	2.0
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	64.0
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	2.0
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	10.0
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	1.0
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)	
Total habitat cover	**100%**

4.1 Other site characteristics

Soil & geology:

Nutrient-poor, Shingle

Geomorphology & landscape:

Coastal, Lagoon

4.2 Quality and importance

Annual vegetation of drift lines

- for which this is one of only four known outstanding localities in the United Kingdom.
- which is considered to be rare as its total extent in the United Kingdom is estimated to be less than 100 hectares.

Perennial vegetation of stony banks

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

Triturus cristatus

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

4.3 Vulnerability

The shingle vegetation is very vulnerable to disturbance by vehicles and walkers, although the coastal shingle (drift-line) vegetation has much greater potential for recovery than the perennial vegetation of shingle banks that occurs further inland. Extensive areas of the site are now managed as a Nature Reserve at both Dungeness and Rye Harbour, with emphasis on interpretation of the site's value and on appropriate public access. A ranger helps to enforce local bylaws which aim to prevent damage from trampling, motorbike activity and illicit gravel extraction.

The wetlands which support great crested newt were formerly grazed, maintaining open unshaded vegetation. This practice largely ceased in the 1950s, and since then there has been invasion of ponds by willows shading the water. Management by hand has now been undertaken to reduce this problem, and restoration of light grazing is being investigated.

Abstraction of water is thought to have damaged some of the shingle wetlands as well as components of the perennial vegetation of the shingle beach. This will be addressed through the relevant review provisions of the Habitats Regulations.

The site is close to an active airport which carries a potential risk from air pollution, although current levels of air traffic and motor vehicles are not thought to cause a problem.

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