

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

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	199211
date site designated as SAC	

2. Site location:

2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
03 25 27 W	54 54 20 N

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

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK12	Cumbria	31.03%
UKA21	Dumfries and Galloway	68.97%

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	Breed	Winter	Stage	Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global
A054	<i>Anas acuta</i>			2253 I		B		C	
A056	<i>Anas clypeata</i>			48 I		C		C	
A052	<i>Anas crecca</i>			1248 I		C		C	
A040	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>			15983 I		B		C	
A169	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			600 I		C		C	
A062	<i>Aythya marila</i>			1544 I		B		C	
A045b	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>			13595 I		A		C	
A067	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>			190 I		C		C	
A144	<i>Calidris alba</i>			212 I		C		C	
A149	<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>			14566 I		B		C	
A143	<i>Calidris canutus</i>			12271 I		B		C	
A038	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>			117 I		B		C	
A130	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			34694 I		B		C	
A157	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>			2367 I		B		C	
A160	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			5881 I		B		C	
A140	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>			6121 I		B		C	
A141	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>			1036 I		B		C	
A048	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>			2196 I		B		C	
A162	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			3088 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)	93.0
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	6.0
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	1.0
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	
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)	
Total habitat cover	100%

4.1 Other site characteristics

Soil & geology:

Biogenic reef, Igneous, Limestone, Mud, Pebble, Sand, Sandstone, Shingle

Geomorphology & landscape:

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

4.2 Quality and importance

ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

Over winter the area regularly supports:

<i>Branta leucopsis</i> (Svalbard/Denmark/UK)	112.2% of the GB population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Cygnus cygnus</i> (Iceland/UK/Ireland)	2.1% of the GB population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Limosa lapponica</i> (Western Palearctic - wintering)	4.5% of the GB population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (North-western Europe - breeding)	2.4% 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 acuta</i> (North-western Europe)	3.8% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Anas clypeata</i> (North-western/Central Europe)	0.5% of the population in Great Britain 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Anas crecca</i> (North-western Europe)	0.9% of the population in Great Britain 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> (Eastern Greenland/Iceland/UK)	7.1% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Arenaria interpres</i> (Western Palearctic - wintering)	0.9% of the population in Great Britain 5 year peak mean, 1986/7-1990/1
<i>Aythya marila</i> (Northern/Western Europe)	0.5% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Bucephala clangula</i> (North-western/Central Europe)	1.1% of the population in Great Britain 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Calidris alba</i> (Eastern Atlantic/Western & Southern Africa - wintering)	0.9% of the population in Great Britain 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> (Northern Siberia/Europe/Western Africa)	2.7% of the population in Great Britain 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96

<i>Calidris canutus</i> (North-eastern Canada/Greenland/Iceland/North-western Europe)	3.6% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> (Europe & Northern/Western Africa)	4% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Numenius arquata</i> (Europe - breeding)	1.7% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering)	2.4% of the population in Great Britain 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (North-western Europe)	3% of the population in Great Britain 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Tringa totanus</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering)	1.7% 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:	
133440 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 01/11/1998)	
Including:	
<i>Cygnus cygnus</i> , <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> , <i>Branta leucopsis</i> , <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> , <i>Anas crecca</i> , <i>Anas acuta</i> , <i>Anas clypeata</i> , <i>Aythya marila</i> , <i>Bucephala clangula</i> , <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> , <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> , <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> , <i>Calidris canutus</i> , <i>Calidris alba</i> , <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> , <i>Limosa lapponica</i> , <i>Numenius arquata</i> , <i>Tringa totanus</i> , <i>Arenaria interpres</i> .	

4.3 Vulnerability

A management strategy for the site has been produced by the Solway Firth Partnership. The strategy addresses threats to the SPA interest on the site and sets out the means by which it is proposed to secure the sustainable use of the Firth.

There has been relatively little land claim compared with most other estuaries in the UK but some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.

5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	16.9
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	100.0