

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	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 22 33 E	51 23 24 N

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

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK57	Kent	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
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	58	D			

Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	10	D			
Reefs	32	A	C	B	B
Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	1	A	C	A	B

3.2 Annex II species

Species name	Population			Site assessment			
	Resident	Migratory		Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global
		Breed	Winter				

4. Site description

4.1 General site character

Habitat classes	% cover
Marine areas. Sea inlets	87.0
Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	10.0
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	3.0
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	
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:

Chert/flint, Cobble, Limestone/chalk, Mud, Sand

Geomorphology & landscape:

Cave/tunnel, Cliffs, Coastal, Intertidal rock, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Open coast (including bay), Subtidal rock (including rocky reefs), Subtidal sediments (including sandbank/mudbank)

4.2 Quality and importance

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.

4.3 Vulnerability

The soft upper chalk is vulnerable to erosion and natural physical destruction. The adjacent land is heavily built-up, with a resident population of 120,000. Levels of tourism and recreation activity are high with, 2 million visitors per year. To protect infrastructure, coastal protection works have been constructed along 75% of the cliff face. Some commercial fishing, including potting, occurs within the site. Harvesting of bait and shellfish occurs on the shores and has caused a small amount of physical damage to the reef. There is a commercial port and two small harbours.

In preparing the management scheme, all human activities have been evaluated with stakeholders, and management agreed. Recreation and harvesting are to be managed with mutually agreed voluntary codes of conduct. A new wildlife project is to be established to draft the codes and interpret and promote the site.

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