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 UK0017075

1.3 Compilation date 199610

1.4 Update 200103

1.5 Relationship with other Natura 2000 sites

U	K	9	0	0	8	0	2	1
U	K	9	0	0	8	0	2	2
U	K	9	0	0	9	0	3	1

1.6 Respondent(s) International Designations, JNCC, Peterborough

1.7 Site name **The Wash and North Norfolk Coast**

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**
00 19 05 E	52 56 13 N

2.2 Site area (ha) 107761.28

2.3 Site length (km)

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK33	Lincolnshire	61.00%
UK402	Norfolk	39.00%

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
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	41	A	B	B	**A**
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	17	A	B	A	**A**
Coastal lagoons	0.02	C	C	B	**C**
Large shallow inlets and bays	39	A	B	B	**A**
Reefs	0	A	C	A	**A**
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	0.4	A	A	A	**A**
Spartina swards (*Spartinion maritimae*)	0	D			
Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)	2.6	A	B	A	**A**
Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (*Sarcocornetea fruticosi*)	0.1	A	A	A	**A**

3.2 Annex II species

		Population			Site assessment			
	Resident	Migratory						
Species name		Breed	Winter	Stage	Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global
Lutra lutra	Very rare	-	-	-	C	C	C	**C**
Halichoerus grypus	Present	-	-	-	D			
Phoca vitulina	1001-10,000	-	-	-	B	B	C	**A**

4. Site description

4.1 General site character

Habitat classes	% cover
Marine areas. Sea inlets	51.0
Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	46.0
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	3.0
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	
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. 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:

Alluvium, Biogenic reef, Chert/flint, Clay, Gravel, Limestone/chalk, Mud, Nutrient-rich, Peat, Sand, Sandstone, Shingle

Geomorphology & landscape:

Barrier beach, Coastal, Enclosed coast (including embayment), Estuary, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Lagoon, Open coast (including bay), Shingle bar, Subtidal sediments (including sandbank/mudbank)

4.2 Quality and importance

Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time
- 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 this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

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

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.

Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand
- for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)
- for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (*Sarcocornetea fruticosi*)
- 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 1000 hectares.

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

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

4.3 Vulnerability

The Wash and North Norfolk Coast is one of the most diverse coastal systems in Britain. This diversity is largely dependent on physical processes that dominate the natural system; consequently the vulnerability of habitats is linked to changes in the physical environment. The intertidal zone is being threatened from coastal squeeze as a result of land-claim and coastal defence works as well as sea-level rise and storm-surges. Changes in the sediment budgets also threaten these habitats. At present activities which alter the sediment characteristics include dredging and coastal protection works. Current management is underway to address concerns over declines in shellfisheries.
The area supports internationally important seal populations that are vulnerable to disturbance and disruption of the marine ecosystem upon which they depend. Such issues should be addressed through the Marine Scheme of Management.

5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	2.8
UK00 (N/A)	38.7
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	61.4