

# 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	199610
date site designated as SAC	

### 2. Site location:

#### 2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
01 33 03 E	52 04 58 N

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

#### 2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK403	Suffolk	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

### 3.2 Annex I birds and regularly occurring migratory birds not listed on Annex I

Code	Species name	Population			Site assessment				
		Resident	Migratory		Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global	
Breed	Winter	Stage							
A081	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		>3 P			C		B	
A183	<i>Larus fuscus</i>		14070 P			A		C	
A151	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>			3 I		C		C	
A132	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>			766 I		A		B	
A132	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		104 P			A		B	
A195	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>		48 P			C		C	
A191	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>		170 P			C		C	
A162	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			1919 I		C		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)	50.0
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	20.0
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	25.0
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	5.0
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	
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)	
<b>Total habitat cover</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 4.1 Other site characteristics

#### Soil & geology:

Mud, Nutrient-rich, Sedimentary, Shingle

#### Geomorphology & landscape:

Coastal, Estuary, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Lagoon, Lowland, Shingle bar

### 4.2 Quality and importance

#### ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

#### During the breeding season the area regularly supports:

*Circus aeruginosus*

at least 1.9% of the GB breeding population  
5 year mean, 1993-1997

<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (Western Europe/Western Mediterranean - breeding)	23.1% of the GB breeding population 5 year mean, 1990-1994
<i>Sterna albifrons</i> (Eastern Atlantic - breeding)	2% of the GB breeding population 5 count mean, 1993-4,1996-8
<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> (Western Europe/Western Africa)	1.2% of the GB breeding population 5 year mean, 1992-1996
<b>Over winter the area regularly supports:</b>	
<i>Philomachus pugnax</i> (Western Africa - wintering)	0.4% of the GB population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (Western Europe/Western Mediterranean - breeding)	60.3% of the GB population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96

<b>ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)</b>	
<b>During the breeding season the area regularly supports:</b>	
<i>Larus fuscus</i> (Western Europe/Mediterranean/Western Africa)	11.3% of the breeding population 5 year mean 1994-1998
<b>Over winter the area regularly supports:</b>	
<i>Tringa totanus</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering)	1.1% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96

### 4.3 Vulnerability

The area is vulnerable to sea-level rise and coastal squeeze. These issues are being addressed through The Environment Agency Local Environment Action Plan, the estuary Management Plan and possibly managed retreat. Human disturbance from recreation is minimal as this is a reasonably robust system. Flood defence policy will need to take into account risks to the site from flooding and of flood control alleviation measures. Shooting is controlled through a management plan. A considerable part of the site is managed sympathetically by Suffolk Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and English Nature.

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

### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	4.5
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	100.0