

European Site Conservation Objectives for The Dee Estuary Special Protection Area Site Code: UK9013011



With regard to the SPA and the individual species and/or assemblage of species for which the site has been classified (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;

- **The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features**
- **The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features**
- **The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely**
- **The population of each of the qualifying features, and,**
- **The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.**

This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Conservation Advice document, which provides more detailed advice and information to enable the application and achievement of the Objectives set out above.

Qualifying Features:

- A048 *Tadorna tadorna*; Common shelduck (Non-breeding)
 - A052 *Anas crecca*; Eurasian teal (Non-breeding)
 - A054 *Anas acuta*; Northern pintail (Non-breeding)
 - A130 *Haematopus ostralegus*; Eurasian oystercatcher (Non-breeding)
 - A141 *Pluvialis squatarola*; Grey plover (Non-breeding)
 - A143 *Calidris canutus*; Red knot (Non-breeding)
 - A149 *Calidris alpina alpina*; Dunlin (Non-breeding)
 - A156 *Limosa limosa islandica*; Black-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)
 - A157 *Limosa lapponica*; Bar-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)
 - A160 *Numenius arquata*; Eurasian curlew (Non-breeding)
 - A162 *Tringa totanus*; Common redshank (Non-breeding)
 - A191 *Sterna sandvicensis*; Sandwich tern (Non-breeding)
 - A193 *Sterna hirundo*; Common tern (Breeding)
 - A195 *Sterna albifrons*; Little tern (Breeding)
- Waterbird assemblage

This is a cross border site

This site crosses the border between England and Wales. Some features may only occur in one Country. The advice of [Natural Resources Wales](#) should therefore be sought separately.

This is a European Marine Site

This SPA is a part of the Dee Estuary European Marine Site (EMS). These Conservation Objectives should be used in conjunction with the Conservation Advice document for the EMS.

Natural England's formal Conservation Advice for European Marine Sites can be found via [GOV.UK](#).

Explanatory Notes: European Site Conservation Objectives

These Conservation Objectives are those referred to in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) ('the Habitats Regulations'). They must be considered when a competent authority is required to make a 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' including an Appropriate Assessment, under the relevant parts of this legislation.

These Conservation Objectives, and the accompanying Supplementary Advice (where this is available), will also provide a framework to inform the management of the European Site and the prevention of deterioration of habitats and significant disturbance of its qualifying features

These Conservation Objectives are set for each bird feature for a [Special Protection Area \(SPA\)](#).

Where these objectives are being met, the site will be considered to exhibit a high degree of integrity and to be contributing to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive.

Publication date: 21 February 2019 (version 4). This document updates and replaces an earlier version dated 5 February 2016 to reflect the consolidation of the Habitats Regulations in 2017.