

European Site Conservation Objectives for Bowland Fells Special Protection Area and potential Special Protection Area Site Code: UK9005151



With regard to the SPA and potential SPA, and the individual species and/or assemblage of species for which the site has been or may be classified (the 'Qualifying Features' including the 'Additional 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 Supplementary Advice document (where available), which provides more detailed advice and information to enable the application and achievement of the Objectives set out above.

Qualifying Features:

A082 *Circus cyaneus*; Hen harrier (Breeding)

A098 *Falco columbarius*; Merlin (Breeding)

Additional Qualifying Features*

A183. *Larus fuscus*; Lesser black-backed gull (Breeding)

*Government has undertaken public consultation on the scientific case for the classification of these additional features as part of this Special Protection Area (SPA).

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.

This is a potential Special Protection Area (pSPA)

This site is also a pSPA because Government has previously undertaken a [public consultation on the scientific case for the classification of breeding lesser black-backed gull](#) as an additional qualifying feature of this Special Protection Area (SPA). As a matter of Government policy, potential SPAs and their features are treated as if they are formally classified. The provisions of the Habitats Regulations therefore apply to them (see above).

Publication date: 21 February 2019 (version 4). This document updates and replaces an earlier version dated 13 July 2018 to reflect the consolidation of the Habitats Regulations in 2017.