

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

U	K	0	0	1	3	6	0	2
U	K	0	0	3	0	0	8	8
U	K	0	0	3	0	2	6	0
U	K	0	0	3	0	2	6	4
U	K	9	0	0	1	1	5	1

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	199902
date site designated as SAC	

2. Site location:

2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
03 56 15 W	58 20 10 N

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

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UKA31	Highland	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
A091	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		5 P			C		C	
A222	<i>Asio flammeus</i>		30 P			B		C	
A466	<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>		1860 P			A		C	
A082	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>		14 P			B		B	
A098	<i>Falco columbarius</i>		54 P			B		C	
A002	<i>Gavia arctica</i>		26 P			A		C	
A001	<i>Gavia stellata</i>		89 P			B		C	
A140	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>		1064 P			B		C	
A166	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		<5 P			A		A	

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)	
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	2.0
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	94.0
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	3.0
Dry grassland. Steppes	1.0
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:

Acidic, Calc-schists, Granite, Nutrient-poor, Peat, Sandstone

Geomorphology & landscape:

Upland

4.2 Quality and importance

ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

During the breeding season the area regularly supports:

<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	1.3% of the GB breeding population Count, as at 1992
<i>Asio flammeus</i>	3% of the GB breeding population Count, as at mid-1990s
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	2.2% of the GB breeding population 5 year mean, 1993-1997
<i>Falco columbarius</i>	4.2% of the GB breeding population Count, as at early 1990s
<i>Gavia arctica</i> (Western Siberia/Europe)	16.8% of the GB breeding population 11 year mean, 1986-1996
<i>Gavia stellata</i> (North-western Europe - wintering)	9.5% of the GB breeding population Two year mean, 1993-1994
<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (North-western Europe - breeding)	4.7% of the GB breeding population Count, as at mid-1990s
<i>Tringa glareola</i> (Europe- breeding)	up to 40% of the GB breeding population Two year mean, 1994-1995

ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

During the breeding season the area regularly supports:

<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i> (Baltic/UK/Ireland)	16.9% of the breeding population Count, as at 1994
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4.3 Vulnerability

This extensive peatland site is managed for a range of crofting, sporting and farming interests. The site also contains two National Nature Reserves and an RSPB nature reserve managed for nature conservation. Current levels of activity are generally compatible with the nature conservation interests. Some areas are subject to moderate overgrazing by deer which in the long-term could result in deterioration of the habitat. A significant proportion of the site is subject to Peatland Management Schemes and other management agreements administered by SNH in order to address threats to the site. These agreements encourage traditional management practises at levels which maintain the conservation interest of the site and are continually being extended to include more areas. There are few direct pressures on the bird interest of the site. Some disturbance to nesting birds can be caused by recreational activities such as angling. SNH is liaising with appropriate parties to minimise such impacts.

5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	1.7
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	100.0