

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	199603
date site designated as SAC	

2. Site location:

2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
04 53 30 W	58 36 00 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							
A200	<i>Alca torda</i>		1800 I			C		C	
A188	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>		9660 P			C		C	
A199	<i>Uria aalge</i>		13670 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)	
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	0.4
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	13.8
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	0.1
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	64.1
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	11.8
Dry grassland. Steppes	8.4
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	1.4
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, Alluvium, Boulder, Limestone, Limestone/chalk, Metamorphic, Nutrient-poor, Peat, Quartzite, Sandstone, Sandstone/mudstone, Sedimentary

Geomorphology & landscape:

Cave/tunnel, Caves, Cliffs, Coastal, Crags/ledges, Geos (rocky inlets), Hilly, Intertidal rock, Montane, Open coast (including bay), Slope, Surge gullies, Upland

4.2 Quality and importance

ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

During the breeding season the area regularly supports:

Alca torda

1.2% of the population in Great Britain
Count, as at 1988

<i>Rissa tridactyla</i> (Eastern Atlantic - Breeding)	0.3% of the breeding population Count, as at 1988
<i>Uria aalge</i> (East Atlantic)	4.1% of the breeding population Count, as at 1988

4.3 Vulnerability

Annual military exercises held in mid-June on the nearby Cape Wrath Naval Bombardment Range may have an impact on seabird breeding success on the SPA. SNH will monitor the breeding productivity of kittiwakes on this site over the next three years to assess the significance of disturbance caused by bombing. The Ministry of Defence has indicated a willingness to reschedule the exercises should an adverse effect be proven.

At present, there is no evidence of damage from fishing or pollution in the surrounding waters. SNH will liaise with Competent Authorities responsible for fisheries and pollution control should a threat become apparent.

5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	100.0