

# 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	0	4	4
U	K	0	0	3	0	3	1	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	200002
date site designated as SAC	

### 2. Site location:

#### 2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
03 05 00 W	56 24 30 N

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

#### 2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UKA15	Tayside	61.56%
UKA13	Fife	38.44%

#### 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
A043a	<i>Anser anser</i>			1200 I		C		C	
A040	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>			2800 I		C		C	
A081	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		4 P			C		C	
A157	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>			2400 I		C		C	
A195	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>		25 P			C		C	
A162	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			1800 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)	82.8
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	1.2
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	8.0
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	2.0
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	6.0
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:

Basalt, Mud, Sand, Sandstone

##### Geomorphology & landscape:

Coastal, Estuary, Intertidal rock, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Island, Lagoon, Lowland, Open coast (including bay)

## 4.2 Quality and importance

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

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

*Circus aeruginosus* 2.5% of the GB breeding population  
5 year mean from 1992 to 1996

*Sterna albifrons* 1% of the population in Great Britain  
(Eastern Atlantic - breeding) 5 year mean for 1993 to 1997

**Over winter the area regularly supports:**

*Limosa lapponica* 4.6% of the GB population  
(Western Palearctic - wintering) 5 year peak mean for 1990/91 to 1994/95

### ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

**Over winter the area regularly supports:**

*Anser anser* 1.2% of the population  
(Iceland/UK/Ireland) 5 year peak mean for 1990/91 to 1994/95

*Anser brachyrhynchus* 1.2% of the population  
(Eastern Greenland/Iceland/UK) 5 year peak mean for 1990/91 to 1994/95

*Tringa totanus* 1% of the population  
(Eastern Atlantic - wintering) 5 year peak mean for 1990/91 to 1994/95

### ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC): AN INTERNATIONALLY IMPORTANT ASSEMBLAGE OF BIRDS

**Over winter the area regularly supports:**

48000 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 01/02/2000)

Including:

*Phalacrocorax carbo* , *Anser brachyrhynchus* , *Anser anser* , *Tadorna tadorna* , *Somateria mollissima* , *Clangula hyemalis* , *Melanitta nigra* , *Melanitta fusca* , *Bucephala clangula* , *Haematopus ostralegus* , *Pluvialis squatarola* , *Calidris alba* , *Calidris alpina alpina* , *Limosa limosa islandica* , *Limosa lapponica* , *Tringa totanus* .  
*Bucephala clangula* , *Calidris alba* , *Calidris alpina alpina* , *Clangula hyemalis* , *Haematopus ostralegus* , *Limosa limosa islandica* , *Melanitta fusca* , *Melanitta nigra* , *Phalacrocorax carbo* , *Pluvialis squatarola* , *Somateria mollissima* , *Tadorna tadorna* .

## 4.3 Vulnerability

Some land-claim has occurred within the site but this is not likely to pose any future threat. Aggregate removal occurs in the Firth but this is outwith the SPA and is not thought to damage the integrity of the site. Disturbance levels are quite high, particularly at Tentsmuir Point which is visited by large numbers of walkers (some with dogs), as well as illegal use by all-terrain vehicles. The latter issue is recognised and being addressed through the management plan for this National Nature Reserve which has a resident warden. Jet planes from a large military airbase adjacent to the Eden Estuary cross the whole site but this has occurred for many years and has no apparent adverse affects on wildlife.

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

### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	10.3

UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	100.0
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