

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

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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	198507
date site designated as SAC	

2. Site location:

2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
01 32 14 W	55 20 06 N

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

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK131	Northumberland	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	Breed	Winter	Stage	Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global
A192	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>		31 P			A		A	
A193	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		740 P			B		C	
A194	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>		700 P			C		C	
A191	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>		1590 P			B		C	

4. Site description:

4.1 General site character

Habitat classes	% cover
Marine areas. Sea inlets	66.1
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	6.1
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	0.5
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	
Dry grassland. Steppes	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	
Improved grassland	24.5
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)	2.8
Total habitat cover	100%

4.1 Other site characteristics

Soil & geology:

Boulder, Metamorphic, Neutral, Nutrient-rich, Peat, Sand, Sandstone, Sedimentary

Geomorphology & landscape:

Intertidal rock, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Islands, Subtidal rock (including rocky reefs)

4.2 Quality and importance

ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

During the breeding season the area regularly supports:

Sterna dougallii 48.4% of the GB breeding population
(Europe - breeding) 5 year mean, 1993-1997

Sterna hirundo 6% of the GB breeding population
(Northern/Eastern Europe - breeding) 5 year mean, 1993-1997

<i>Sterna paradisaea</i> (Arctic - breeding/Southern Oceans - wintering)	1.6% of the GB breeding population Four count mean, 1993 & 1995-1997
<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> (Western Europe/Western Africa)	11.4% of the GB breeding population 5 year mean, 1993-1997

ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

4.3 Vulnerability

The site is managed by the RSPB as a nature reserve within the terms of a management plan agreed with English Nature. Consequently the site is being actively managed for its SPA and other breeding seabird interest. The site is not currently open to visitors.

The thin soils on the island are easily disturbed by burrowing rabbits and puffins which has lead to concern over loss of vegetation and subsequent erosion. The RSPB are currently undertaking vegetation management trials to limit erosion problems.

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