

# 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	2	6	4	2
U	K	0	0	1	2	6	7	0
U	K	0	0	1	2	9	2	8
U	K	0	0	3	0	1	2	8
U	K	0	0	3	0	1	4	5

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	199601
date site designated as SAC	

### 2. Site location:

#### 2.1 Site centre location

longitude

latitude

2.2 Site area (ha)

2.3 Site length (km)

#### 2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK912	Dyfed	44.74%
UK914	Powys	54.87%

#### 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				
A098	<i>Falco columbarius</i>		7 P		C		C	
A074	<i>Milvus milvus</i>		15 P		B		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	
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	0.4
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	18.1
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	17.0
Dry grassland. Steppes	17.6
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	42.0
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	
Improved grassland	0.3
Other arable land	
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	2.4
Coniferous woodland	1.7
Evergreen woodland	
Mixed woodland	
Non-forest areas cultivated with woody plants (including orchards, groves, vineyards, dehesas)	
Inland rocks. Scree. Sands. Permanent snow and ice	0.5
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:

Acidic, Metalliferous, Nutrient-poor, Peat, Sedimentary, Shingle

##### Geomorphology & landscape:

Crags/ledges, Escarpment, Hilly, Montane, Upland, Valley

#### 4.2 Quality and importance

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

During the breeding season the area regularly supports:

<i>Falco columbarius</i>	0.5% of the GB breeding population 5 year mean, 1987-1991
<i>Milvus milvus</i>	9.3% of the GB breeding population Count, as at 1997

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

**4.3 Vulnerability**

The site's primary importance lies in its good population of Merlin and Red Kite. Merlin prey on small birds, which are most numerous in heath and scrub habitats around the hill margins. These areas are vulnerable to damage by over-grazing and excessive burning, which is carried out illegally by some graziers. Enforcement action by WOAD may help to alleviate the problem. Nesting Merlin are vulnerable to disturbance from walkers, mountain bikers and motorcycles. The Welsh Water Ranger Service and local police do their best to prevent disturbance and the local authority are considering traffic regulation orders.

Red Kites scavenge for sheep carrion on the open hill and prey on small mammals and worms on the hill edge. Thus they are vulnerable to a reduction in sheep subsidies and Environmentally Sensitive Area payments are effectively preventing such changes. Red Kites nest in woodland and are particularly vulnerable to human disturbance during the breeding season. The most vulnerable kite nests are watched to prevent intentional and accidental disturbance. Forestry operations could threaten certain nest sites, however liaison with the Forestry Authority and Forestry Enterprise has been effective in protecting most active nests.

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

**5.1 Designation types at national and regional level**

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	3.3
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	99.6