

**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	200012
date confirmed as SCI	
date site classified as SPA	
date site designated as SAC	

**2. Site location:****2.1 Site centre location**

longitude	latitude
03 37 42 W	52 02 50 N

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

**2.5 Administrative region**

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UK914	Powys	100.0%

**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
Alkaline fens	1	D			
Bog woodland	3.7	D			

### 3.2 Annex II species

Species name	Population				Site assessment			
	Resident	Migratory			Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global
		Breed	Winter	Stage				
<i>Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus</i>	Present	-	-	-		A	C	B

## 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)	0.5
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	6.2
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	15.7
Dry grassland. Steppes	49.7
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	22.9
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	
Improved grassland	
Other arable land	
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	5.0
Coniferous 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)	
<b>Total habitat cover</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 4.1 Other site characteristics

#### Soil & geology:

Acidic, Basic, Clay, Neutral, Peat, Sandstone, Sedimentary

#### Geomorphology & landscape:

Lowland, Slope, Upland, Valley

### 4.2 Quality and importance

*Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus*

- for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

### 4.3 Vulnerability

All areas of the site supporting *Drepanocladus vernicosus* form part of the Ministry of Defence army training area. These were formerly mostly used by artillery. The ranges now offer important infantry training. No areas with *D. vernicosus* lie in areas affected by the impact of large munitions but may suffer sporadic damage from trampling and the use of small explosive charges. All areas with *D. vernicosus* are grazed by sheep, currently at levels sufficient to prevent scrub encroachment, whilst not damaging the flush vegetation. In the recent past, the MoD undertook some drainage of flushes by the use of open ditches, but none of these areas were affected.

Plans to change the grazing/letting arrangements from an annual licence held in common over the whole range to short-term tenancies over specific areas could allow farmers to drain or fertilise more of the range. Conditions will need to be included in the tenancies to preclude this activity.

## 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