

**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	200110
date site designated as SAC	

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

longitude	latitude
05 58 16 W	59 06 39 N

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

**2.5 Administrative region**

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UKM44	Eilean Siar (Western Isles)	2.0%
0	Marine	98.0%

**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

### 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
A200	<i>Alca torda</i>		2300 I			C		C	
A204	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>		5300 P			C		C	
A009	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>		11500 P			C		C	
A014	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>		>100 0 P			C		C	
A187	<i>Larus marinus</i>		730 P			B		C	
A016	<i>Morus bassanus</i>		10400 P			B		C	
A015	<i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i>		>500 P			C		B	
A188	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>		5000 P			C		C	
A199	<i>Uria aalge</i>		43200 I			B		C	

## 4. Site description:

### 4.1 General site character

Habitat classes	% cover
Marine areas. Sea inlets	98.0
Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	0.3
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	0.9
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	0.2
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	
Dry grassland. Steppes	0.6
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. 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, Clay, Gravel, Metamorphic, Nutrient-poor, Peat, Sand, Shingle

#### Geomorphology & landscape:

Cliffs, Crags/ledges, Geos (rocky inlets), Intertidal rock, Islands, Open coast (including bay), Slope, 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:**

<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i> (World)	at least 1% of the GB breeding population 1972
<i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i> (North Atlantic)	at least 1% of the GB breeding population 1972

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

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

<i>Morus bassanus</i>	4% of the breeding population 1994
<i>Uria aalge</i> (East Atlantic)	1% of the breeding population 1986

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

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

130000 seabirds - 1986

Including:

*Alca torda*, *Fratercula arctica*, *Fulmarus glacialis*, *Hydrobates pelagicus*, *Larus marinus*, *Morus bassanus*, *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*, *Rissa tridactyla*, *Uria aalge*.

## 4.3 Vulnerability

The site comprises two isolated islands lying 10km apart. The main landuse on the North Rona component is sheep grazing but there are also occasional visits by cruise ships, and various groups and individuals. These activities are considered to occur at a sustainable level and are consistent with the interest of the site. An annual guga (young gannets) harvest is carried out under licence on Sula Sgeir each year. The government require the application for the guga harvesting license to be made annually, and give very careful consideration to the status of the gannet population. Presently, the guga harvest is considered sustainable and fully compatible with the conservation objectives of the species. The whole site is subject to a Nature Reserve Agreement.

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

### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	2.0
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	2.0