

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	200409
date site designated as SAC	

2. Site location:

2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
03 10 15 W	55 59 00 N

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

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UKA14	Lothian	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	Migratory		Population	Conservation	Isolation	Global	
Breed	Winter	Stage							
A193	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		558 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)	
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	
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)	100.0
Total habitat cover	100%

4.1 Other site characteristics

<p>Soil & geology:</p>
<p>Geomorphology & landscape:</p> <p>Coastal</p>

4.2 Quality and importance

<p>ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)</p> <p>During the breeding season the area regularly supports:</p> <p><i>Sterna hirundo</i> 5% of the population in Great Britain (Northern/Eastern Europe - breeding) 1997 - 2001</p>
<p>ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)</p>

4.3 Vulnerability

As an entirely man-made structure with little vegetation this site is at low risk from any degradation of habitat. However as it is in the centre of an active industrial area (Leith Docks) it is at great risk of disturbance. Although terns are generally sensitive to disturbance this colony appears to be resilient to disturbance from port activities and has been steadily increasing in size. A few years ago a gantry crane was built on the quayside adjacent to the colony and although it has not been operated regularly, use of the crane seems to be increasing. Regular monitoring of the colony during the breeding season should highlight any increased disturbance from this source.

5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK00 (N/A)	100.0