

# 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

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	199611
date site designated as SAC	

### 2. Site location:

#### 2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
07 59 04 W	54 32 00 N

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

#### 2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UKB	Northern Ireland	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

### 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							
A140	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> [North-western Europe - breeding]		12 P			B		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)	5.0
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	80.0
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	15.0
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)	
<b>Total habitat cover</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 4.1 Other site characteristics

#### Soil & geology:

Acidic, Nutrient-poor, Peat

#### Geomorphology & landscape:

Hilly, Upland

### 4.2 Quality and importance

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

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

*Pluvialis apricaria* [North-western Europe - breeding]

3% of the all-Ireland breeding population  
Two count mean, 1987 & 1995

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

### 4.3 Vulnerability

Potentially the site could be damaged by peat-cutting, heavy grazing, excessive burning and afforestation (including the long term effects of adjacent afforested areas on the site). These threats have been and will continue to be addressed by offering ASSI management agreements with the owners and encouraging the uptake of the ESA scheme. The blanket bog vegetation will be monitored as an indicator of Special Protection Area condition. However, a conflict of interests may arise as Golden Plover appear to prefer 'damaged' peatland.

An existing Conservation Plan for Pettigoe Plateau is now under review. This review will up-date existing management prescriptions and refine existing conservation objectives.

## 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