

# 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	200106
date site designated as SAC	

### 2. Site location:

#### 2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
03 59 04 W	52 32 41 N

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

#### 2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UKL12	Gwynedd	24.6%
UKL14	South West Wales	73.6%
UKL24	Powys	1.8%

#### 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
A395	<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>			139 I		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)	59.0
Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes	24.0
Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair	
Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets	
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	0.1
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	0.9
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	
Dry grassland. Steppes	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	
Improved grassland	16.0
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, Alluvium, Clay, Gravel, Mud, Neutral, Nutrient-poor, Nutrient-rich, Peat, Pebble, Sand, Sandstone, Sandstone/mudstone, Sedimentary, Shingle, Slate/shale

##### Geomorphology & landscape:

Coastal, Estuary, Floodplain, Intertidal rock, Intertidal sediments (including sandflat/mudflat), Lowland, Pools, Subtidal sediments (including sandbank/mudbank), Valley

#### 4.2 Quality and importance

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

Over winter the area regularly supports:

*Anser albifrons flavirostris*  
(Greenland/Ireland/UK)

1% of the GB population  
5 year peak mean for 1993/94 - 1997/98

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

**4.3 Vulnerability**

The Dyfi estuary regularly supports over 1% of the GB wintering population of Greenland white-fronted geese, and as the only site in England and Wales, it is the most southerly population in the UK. Disturbance by leisure activities including wildfowling, and also low-flying aircraft, may be significant to feeding and roosting geese. CCW and the RSPB lease the sporting rights over the majority of the site. The sporting rights are let to local wildfowling clubs within the NNR where there is a voluntary ban on shooting the geese. There are also sanctuary areas where no shooting takes place within the eastern half of the estuary. The SPA is wardened by CCW and the RSPB and disturbance from leisure activities is monitored. Appropriate grazing of the saltmarsh and grassland is important to maintain feeding areas. There is an increasing resident flock of Canada geese on the estuary of approximately 2,000 birds. The interactions between this species and the Greenland white-fronted geese and the impact on the habitat is unknown.

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

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

Code	% cover
UK01 (NNR)	69.8
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	100.0