

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	200504
date site designated as SAC	

2. Site location:

2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
03 41 45 W	57 32 45 N

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

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UKA4	Grampian	70.48%
UKA31	Highland	29.52%

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						
A108	<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>	23 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)	
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	2.0
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	4.0
Dry grassland. Steppes	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	1.0
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	
Improved grassland	
Other arable land	
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	6.0
Coniferous woodland	83.0
Evergreen woodland	
Mixed woodland	4.0
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)	
Total habitat cover	100%

4.1 Other site characteristics

Soil & geology:

Acidic, Alluvium, Clay, Metamorphic, Sandstone, Sedimentary

Geomorphology & landscape:

Hilly, Lowland, Valley

4.2 Quality and importance

ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

During the year the area regularly supports:

Tetrao urogallus

2.1% of the GB breeding population
3 years lek counts (1999/2000, 2002–2003)

ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

4.3 Vulnerability

The SPA comprises several areas of forest managed commercially for timber production. The site would be vulnerable to changes in forest management but forest managers are sympathetic to the needs of capercaillie in planning and undertaking forest operations, and are in the process of formulating forest plans which will fully take into account its needs. These will ensure the proportion of stands of preferred species and age are maintained in the long-term. The extent of invasive species is being monitored and controlled. Open ground habitats including heathland and wetland will be retained or reinstated. Key predators of capercaillie are controlled. Some positive management action is financially supported by the Capercaillie LIFE Project in the short term and Scottish Forestry Grants Scheme (SFGS) in the longer term. The site is used by locals for walking but a car park and trails are provided such that disturbance to the most sensitive areas is minimised. The site would be vulnerable to changes in levels and forms of recreational use but this is not anticipated.

5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK00 (N/A)	97.1
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	2.9