

Background document to the development of the UK MPA Network Features List

The purpose of the UK MPA Network Features List is to provide a standardised set of features of importance at the UK level, that can be used for reporting purposes to provide information, such as that required by Defra and the Devolved Administrations for the UK MPA Stocktake on what MPAs are present within UK waters and what features they protect.

The UK MPA Features List (see [Annex 1](#)) was created by JNCC with the assistance of the relevant Country Agencies throughout the process. This list of features will allow comparison across all of the MPAs that contribute to the UK MPA network. The list was developed using all 'listed' features for which MPAs are designated in the UK as a starting point. 'Listed feature' refers to those species, habitats, geology or assemblages which have been protected (or 'listed') in the relevant MPA designation orders or designation guidance. As the UK MPA features list needs to be standardised, it only includes the following types of features:

- EUNIS Level 3 features¹,
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC) (or equivalent)²,
- OSPAR Threatened & Declining species and habitats³

¹ EUNIS Classification. Available here: <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-3365>

² In 2006 the list of habitat and species under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) was superseded by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 in Scotland. The NERC list refers to the following lists for each country:

- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act came into force on 1st Oct 2006. Section 41 (S41) of the Act requires the Secretary of State to publish a list of habitats and species which are of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England. The list has been drawn up in consultation with Natural England, as required by the Act. The list of English habitats and species of principal importance is available at: <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>
- The Biodiversity Duty as set out in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act came into force on 1st Oct 2006. Section 42 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) requires the National Assembly for Wales in consultation with The Countryside Council for Wales to publish, review, revise and act on lists of organisms of principal importance in Wales. This list is known as the Section 42 (S42) list of species and habitats of principal importance in Wales. The list of Welsh Habitats and species of principal importance is available at: <http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/en-GB/Section-42-Lists>
- The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 came into force on 5th May 2004 (or 11th June 2004 when it received Royal Assent). Section 2 of the Act requires Scottish Ministers to publish lists of species of fauna and flora and habitats considered to be of principle importance, to allow public bodies and office-holders to further the conservation of biodiversity in exercising their functions. The Scottish Biodiversity List is available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Wildlife-Habitats/16118/Biodiversitylist/SBL>
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). The original lists of UK BAP priority species and habitats were created between 1995 and 1999, and were subsequently updated in 2007 following a 2-year review. The Northern Ireland Priority Habitats and Species lists are available at: http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/biodiversity/sap_uk/priority_species.htm and <http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/biodiversity/habitats-2.htm>

- Annex II species⁴ listed in the EU Habitats Directive,
- Annex I species listed in the EU Birds Directive and Regularly Occurring Migratory Species (ROMS)⁵

Features listed under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive and schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) are not included in the UK MPA Network Features List. In relation to UK BAP, this only concerns those features which were listed on the UK BAP lists but then subsequently not listed on the superseding NERC Act 2006 (or equivalent). When it comes to the UK MPA features List being used to inform which features are protected by UK MPAs, Annex I habitat features under the EU Habitats Directive can be listed using their EUNIS level 3 equivalent and so it is not necessary for Annex I features to be included on the UK MPA Features List.

In the instances where a feature is listed across different pieces of legislation, both names will be included for the feature within the UK MPA Network Features List to ensure consistency with the name of the feature as listed in the EUNIS classification/relevant legislation, (e.g. Intertidal Chalk (NERC) / Littoral chalk communities (OSPAR)).

The bird species listed are only those considered 'marine' species. Bird species features are only considered 'marine' when an MPA protects an area of the marine environment that is used and depended upon by that species (i.e. an intertidal or subtidal area below Mean High Water (MHW), or Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) in Scotland); protection to breeding colonies/sites above MHW is not sufficient to be considered marine, even if a true seabird is being protected. Special Protection Area (SPA) colony extensions and marine SPAs specifically protect a marine area used by marine birds and therefore their features will qualify as network features; these sites are still in the process of designation so this list includes the species intended for protection (but not yet actually protected) as of July 2014.

As part of the UK MPA stocktake, it will be the responsibility of the Country Agencies to provide information on their MPAs, listed features and equivalent UK MPA Network Features through the UK MPA database. The intention is that when there is not a direct equivalent of a listed feature on the UK MPA Features List, the Country Agencies will translate their listed features into the equivalent features before inputting their data into the UK MPA database. Features are to be translated on a case-by-case basis by the Country Agencies. A listed feature could potentially be translated to multiple UK MPA Network Features, for example, an Annex I Large shallow inlet and bay could be affording protection to several EUNIS Level 3 habitats. Most but not all listed features will have an equivalent UK MPA Network Feature, for example SSSI features that are specific to one country may not be represented on the UK MPA Network Features List at all.

The UK MPA database will hold information on both the listed feature in addition to the equivalent UK MPA Network feature. Where listed features are of a more detailed EUNIS Level 4 and/or 5, these feature are subsumed into the higher level EUNIS level 3 but the more detailed information shall still be retained in the UK MPA database as the listed feature. The more detailed and expansive information captured in the UK MPA database would not necessarily be excluded from future reporting and assessment.

³ List of OSPAR Threatened &/or Declining species and habitats. Available here: http://www.ospar.org/documents/dbase/decrecs/agreements/08-06e_ospar%20list%20species%20and%20habitats.doc

⁴ List of EU Habitats Directive, Annex II species. Available here: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/SAC_species.asp

⁵ Directive 2009/147/EC (Birds Directive) on the conservation of wild birds (the codified version of Council Directive 79/409/EEC as amended). Available here: <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1373>

The UK MPA Network Features Subset List

JNCC and the country agencies have also been working on developing an agreed UK MPA Network Features Subset List which is being derived from the main UK MPA Network Features List. The purpose of this list is to provide a subset of the standardised UK MPA Network Features that could be used for any potential future UK MPA network analysis, if such an assessment was agreed by Defra and the Devolved Administrations.⁶ This list will therefore exclude features that it would be inappropriate to undertake further network assessment at the UK level. The list will therefore exclude:

- Annex II species which are dealt with through other mechanisms;
- Features which are only listed on the legislation within some countries but which have a more widespread distribution within the UK. These features are therefore not deemed to be of UK importance in terms of ensuring that the UK MPA Network as a whole is ecologically coherent, though they may be of importance in one or more countries within the UK and those countries might want to undertake a smaller scale network assessment within their own administrative area. An example of this is the rugose squat lobster *Munida rugosa* which is only listed on the Northern Ireland NERC Act but which has a UK wide distribution. Another example is that of the stalked jellyfish *Haliclystus auricula* which has a UK wide distribution but is only listed on the England, Wales and Northern Ireland NERC Acts. As both of these features are not listed on the legislation for all of the countries in which they occur, they are not included on the subset list.
- Features where one or more country has excluded them from their MPA search feature list specifically because they are considered to not be suitable for area based protection. For example, common sole *Solea solea* is not included on the subset list because England does not consider area based protection suitable for the feature and is therefore not designating MPAs for this feature.

The UK MPA Network Features Subset List is still a work in progress and will need further review by JNCC and the Country Agencies to finalise.

⁶ The UK MPA Network Features subset list is being developed in advance of any agreement that a UK level for a UK wide MPA network assessment but it could provide the basis for the features to be assessed if any such assessment was requested by Defra and the Devolved Administrations in the future.

Annex 1 - UK MPA Network Features List

UK MPA Feature list	Feature code / Species common name or description	EUNIS / OSPAR / Annex I (Birds Direc) / ROMS / Annex II (Habitats Direc) / NERC	Comments
Habitat			
High energy littoral rock	A1.1	EUNIS Level 3	-
Moderate energy littoral rock	A1.2	EUNIS Level 3	-
Low energy littoral rock	A1.3	EUNIS Level 3	-
Littoral coarse sediment	A2.1	EUNIS Level 3	-
Littoral sand and muddy sand	A2.2	EUNIS Level 3	-
Littoral mud	A2.3	EUNIS Level 3	-
Littoral mixed sediments	A2.4	EUNIS Level 3	-
Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds	A2.5	EUNIS Level 3	-
Littoral sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms	A2.6	EUNIS Level 3	-
Littoral biogenic reefs	A2.7	EUNIS Level 3	-
Atlantic and Mediterranean high energy infralittoral rock	A3.1	EUNIS Level 3	-
Atlantic and Mediterranean moderate energy infralittoral rock	A3.2	EUNIS Level 3	-
Atlantic and Mediterranean low energy infralittoral rock	A3.3	EUNIS Level 3	-
Atlantic and Mediterranean high energy circalittoral rock	A4.1	EUNIS Level 3	-
Atlantic and Mediterranean moderate energy circalittoral rock	A4.2	EUNIS Level 3	-

UK MPA Feature list	Feature code / Species common name or description	EUNIS / OSPAR / Annex I (Birds Direc) / ROMS / Annex II (Habitats Direc) / NERC	Comments
Atlantic and Mediterranean low energy circalittoral rock	A4.3	EUNIS Level 3	-
Sublittoral coarse sediment	A5.1	EUNIS Level 3	-
Sublittoral sand	A5.2	EUNIS Level 3	-
Sublittoral mud	A5.3	EUNIS Level 3	-
Sublittoral mixed sediments	A5.4	EUNIS Level 3	-
Sublittoral macrophyte-dominated sediment	A5.5	EUNIS Level 3	-
Sublittoral biogenic reefs	A5.6	EUNIS Level 3	-
Deep-sea rock and artificial hard substrata	A6.1	EUNIS Level 3	-
Deep-sea mixed substrata	A6.2	EUNIS Level 3	-
Deep-sea sand	A6.3	EUNIS Level 3	-
Deep-sea muddy sand	A6.4	EUNIS Level 3	-
Deep-sea mud	A6.5	EUNIS Level 3	-
Deep-sea bioherms	A6.6	EUNIS Level 3	-
Deep-sea trenches and canyons, channels, slope failures and slumps on the continental slope	A6.8	EUNIS Level 3	-
Blue mussel beds		NERC (all)	-
Carbonate mounds		OSPAR / NERC (S)	-
Carbonate reefs		NERC (W)	-
Coral Gardens		OSPAR	-
Deep-sea sponge aggregations		OSPAR / NERC (S)	-
Estuarine rocky habitat		NERC (all)	-

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File shell beds		NERC (S)	This feature is referred to as Flame shell beds in Scotland.
Fragile sponge and anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats		NERC (all)	This feature is referred to as Northern sea fan and sponge communities in Scotland.
Intertidal Chalk / Littoral chalk communities		OSPAR / NERC (E & NI)	-
Intertidal <i>Mytilus edulis</i> beds on mixed and sandy sediments	Blue mussel	OSPAR	For UK analysis purposes, this feature will be encompassed by the overarching feature Blue mussel beds.
Intertidal underboulder/boulder communities		NERC (all)	-
<i>Lophelia pertusa</i> reefs		OSPAR	For UK analysis purposes, this feature will encompass the feature Cold-water coral reefs.
Maerl beds		OSPAR / NERC (all)	-
<i>Modiolus modiolus</i> beds	Horse mussel	OSPAR / NERC (all)	-
Mud habitats in deep water		NERC (all)	-
<i>Musculus discors</i> beds		NERC (W)	-
<i>Ostrea edulis</i> beds	Flat/native oyster	OSPAR	-
Peat and clay exposures		NERC (E, W & NI)	-
<i>Sabellaria alveolata</i> reefs		NERC (all)	-
<i>Sabellaria spinulosa</i> reefs		OSPAR / NERC (E)	-
Seagrass beds	Seagrass (inc <i>Ruppia</i> spp.)	NERC (all)	-
Seamounts		OSPAR /NERC (S)	-

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Sea-pen and burrowing megafauna communities		OSPAR	-
Serpulid reefs/aggregations		NERC (S)	-
Sheltered muddy gravels		NERC (all)	-
Subtidal chalk		NERC (E & NI)	-
Subtidal mixed muddy sediments		NERC (W)	-
Tide-swept channels		NERC (all)	-
<i>Zostera</i> beds	Seagrass (Genus: <i>Zostera</i>)	OSPAR	For UK analysis purposes, this feature will be encompassed by the overarching feature Seagrass beds.
Species			
<i>Alkmaria romijni</i>	Tentacled lagoon worm	NERC (W)	-
<i>Alosa alosa</i>	Allis shad	OSPAR / Annex II / NERC (all)	-
<i>Alosa fallax</i>	Twaite shad	Annex II / NERC (all)	-
<i>Ammodytes marinus</i>	Raitt's (lesser) Sand-eel	NERC (all)	-
<i>Ammodytes tobianus</i>	Lesser Sand-eel	NERC (S)	-
<i>Amphianthus dohrnii</i>	Sea-fan Anemone	NERC (E)	-
<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	European eel	OSPAR / NERC (all)	-

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<i>Anotrichium barbatum</i>	Bearded red seaweed	NERC (E & W)	-
<i>Anseropoda placenta</i>	Goosefoot starfish	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Arachnanthus sarsi</i>	Scarce Tube-dwelling Anemone/ Burrowing sea anemone	NERC (S & NI)	-
<i>Arctica islandica</i>	Ocean quahog	OSPAR / NERC (W)	-
<i>Armandia cirrhosa</i>	Lagoon Sandworm	NERC (E)	-
<i>Atelecyclus rotundatus</i>	Crab	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Atrina fragilis</i>	Fan mussel	NERC (all)	-
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Minke whale	NERC (all)	-
<i>Cerastoderma glaucum</i>	Brackish cockle	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	Basking shark	OSPAR / NERC (all)	-
<i>Cruoria cruoriiformis</i>	Red seaweed	NERC (E & W)	-
<i>Dermocorynus montagnei</i> (synonym: <i>Grateloupia montagnei</i>)	Red seaweed	NERC (E & W)	-
<i>Desmarestia dresnayi</i> (synonym: <i>Desmarestia dudresnayi</i>)	Brown seaweed	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Dipturus batis</i> (synonym: <i>Raja batis</i> , <i>Dipturus flossada</i> , <i>Dipturus intermedia</i>)	Common Skate complex	OSPAR / NERC (all)	-
<i>Edwardsia timida</i>	Burrowing anemone	NERC (E, W & NI)	-
<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>	Pink sea-fan	NERC (E & W)	-

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<i>Funiculina quadrangularis</i>	Tall Sea Pen	NERC (E & S)	-
<i>Gammarus insensibilis</i>	Lagoon Sand Shrimp	NERC (E)	-
<i>Grampus griseus</i>	Risso's Dolphin	NERC (all)	-
<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	Grey seal	Annex II	-
<i>Haliclystus auricula</i>	Stalked jellyfish	NERC (E, W & NI)	-
<i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i> (synonym: <i>Hippocampus ramulosus</i>)	Long-snouted seahorse	OSPAR / NERC (E, S & W)	-
<i>Hippocampus hippocampus</i>	Short-snouted seahorse	OSPAR / NERC (E)	-
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	OSPAR / NERC (E & S)	-
<i>Labidoplax media</i>	Burrowing sea cucumber	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	River Lamprey	Annex II	-
<i>Leptopsammia pruvoti</i>	Sunset Cup Coral	NERC (E)	-
<i>Lithothamnion corallioides</i>	Coral Maërl	NERC (E, S & W)	-
<i>Lucernariopsis campanulata</i>	Stalked jellyfish	NERC (E, W & NI)	-
<i>Lucernariopsis cruxmelitensis</i>	St John's Jellyfish/ a stalked jellyfish	NERC (E)	-
<i>Lutra lutra</i>	Otter	Annex II / NERC (all)	-
<i>Mitella pollicipes</i> (synonym: <i>Pollicipes pollicipes</i>)	Gooseneck Barnacle	NERC (E)	-
<i>Molva dypterygia</i>	Blue Ling	NERC (E & S)	-

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<i>Munida rugosa</i>	Rugose squat lobster	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Nematostella vectensis</i>	Starlet Sea Anemone	NERC (E)	-
<i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>	Smelt (Sparling)	NERC (all)	-
<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	Flat/native oyster	OSPAR / NERC (all)	-
<i>Pachycerianthus multiplicatus</i>	Fireworks Anemone	NERC (S)	-
<i>Padina pavonica</i>	Peacock's tail	NERC (E & W)	-
<i>Palinurus elephas</i>	Crayfish, Crawfish or Spiny Lobster	NERC (all)	-
<i>Paracucumaria hyndmani</i>	Hyndman's sea cucumber	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Parazoanthus axinellae</i>	Colonial anemone	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Sea lamprey	OSPAR /Annex II / NERC (E, S & W)	-
<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Common Seal (on BAP list as: Eastern Atlantic harbour seal/common Seal)	Annex II / NERC (E, S & NI)	-
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	Harbour porpoise	OSPAR / Annex II / NERC (all)	-
<i>Phymatolithon calcareum</i>	Common maerl	NERC (all)	-
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	NERC (E, W & NI)	-
<i>Pycnoclavella stolonialis</i>	pin head sea squirt	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Raja brachyura</i>	Blonde ray	NERC (W)	-

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<i>Raja clavata</i>	Thornback skate / ray	OSPAR / NERC (W)	-
<i>Raja montagui</i> (synonym: <i>Dipturus montagui</i>)	Spotted Ray	OSPAR	-
<i>Raja undulata</i>	Undulate ray	NERC (E, W & NI)	-
<i>Rostroraja alba</i>	White skate	OSPAR / NERC (E & W)	-
<i>Solea solea</i> (synonym: <i>Solea vulgaris</i>)	Common Sole	NERC (E, W & NI)	-
<i>Tenellia adpersa</i>	Lagoon sea slug	NERC (E & W)	-
<i>Thyonidium drummondii</i>	Sea cucumber	NERC (NI)	-
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Bottlenose dolphin	Annex II /NERC (all)	-
<i>Victorella pavida</i>	Trembling Sea-mat	NERC (E)	-
Bird Species			
<i>Alca torda</i>	Razorbill	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Anas acuta</i>	Northern Pintail	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Anas crecca</i>	Eurasian Teal	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Anas penelope</i>	Eurasian Wigeon	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Aythya marila</i>	Greater Scaup	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-

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<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Brent Goose	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	Common Goldeneye	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Dunlin	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Purple Sandpiper	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> (-)	Ringed Plover	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Long-tailed Duck	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Atlantic Puffin	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Northern Fulmar	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Gavia arctica</i> (+-)	Black-throated Diver	Annex I Birds Directive	-
<i>Gavia immer</i> (+-)	Great Northern Diver	Annex I Birds Directive	-
<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Red-throated Diver	Annex I Birds Directive	-

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<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> (-)	Eurasian Oystercatcher	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Larus argentatus</i> (+)	Herring Gull	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Larus minutus</i>	Little Gull	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit	Annex I Birds Directive	-
<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	Velvet Scoter	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	Common Scoter	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Mergus merganser</i> (+)	Goosander	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Mergus serrator</i>	Red-breasted Merganser	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Morus bassanus</i> (synonym: <i>Sula bassana</i>)	Northern Gannet	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Numenius arquata</i> (-)	Eurasian Curlew	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i> (-)	Whimbrel	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> (+)	European Shag	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-

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<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> (-)	Great Cormorant	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Grey Plover	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Slavonian Grebe	Annex I Birds Directive	-
<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Great Crested Grebe	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	Manx Shearwater	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (-)	Pied Avocet	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Rissa tridactyla</i> (+)	Black-legged kittiwake	OSPAR / Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Common Eider	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Stercorarius skua</i> (+)	Great Skua	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Sterna dougallii</i> (+)	Roseate tern	OSPAR /Annex I Birds Directive	-
<i>Sterna hirundo</i> (+)	Common Tern	Annex I Birds Directive	-
<i>Sterna paradisaea</i> (+)	Arctic Tern	Annex I Birds Directive	-
<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> (+)	Sandwich Tern	Annex I Birds Directive	-
<i>Sternula albifrons</i> (+)	Little Tern	Annex I Birds Directive	-

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<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	Common Shelduck	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Tringa nebularia</i> (-)	Common Greenshank	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Tringa totanus</i> (-)	Common Redshank	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-
<i>Uria aalge</i>	Common Guillemot	Regularly Occurring Migratory Species	-

(+) Included as a network feature on the assumption that aggregations will be protected in forthcoming new marine SPAs or SPA extensions

(-) Included as a network feature for non-breeding but not breeding populations

(+/-) Included as a network feature for non-breeding but not breeding populations on the assumption that aggregations will be protected in forthcoming new marine SPAs or SPA extensions