

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

U	K	0	0	3	0	0	3	0
U	K	0	0	3	0	2	5	1

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	199806
date site designated as SAC	

2. Site location:

2.1 Site centre location

longitude	latitude
03 19 06 W	56 59 30 N

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

2.5 Administrative region

NUTS code	Region name	% cover
UKA4	Grampian	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				
A451	<i>Loxia scotica</i>		20 I			B		C	
A108	<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>	36 I				C		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	13.0
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	36.0
Dry grassland. Steppes	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	1.0
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	
Improved grassland	
Other arable land	
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	1.0
Coniferous woodland	48.0
Evergreen woodland	
Mixed woodland	
Non-forest areas cultivated with woody plants (including orchards, groves, vineyards, dehesas)	
Inland rocks. Screes. Sands. Permanent snow and ice	1.0
Other land (including towns, villages, roads, waste places, mines, industrial sites)	
Total habitat cover	100%

4.1 Other site characteristics

Soil & geology:

Acidic, Calc-schists, Granite, Limestone, Metamorphic, Nutrient-poor, Peat

Geomorphology & landscape:

Crags/ledges, Hilly, Slope, Upland, Valley

4.2 Quality and importance

ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

During the breeding season the area regularly supports:

Loxia scotica 6.7% of the GB breeding population
Count, as at 1997

During the year the area regularly supports:

Tetrao urogallus 1.6% of the GB breeding population
Count, as at 1997

ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)

4.3 Vulnerability

The erection of fencing and deer management has encouraged regeneration of the forest. However, fencing is a threat to capercaillie and other birds. Regeneration is being monitored and deer management is under review with a view to removing the fencing whilst maintaining the forest regeneration. In the meantime the fencing is being marked to reduce any impact on birds.

Much of the moorland above the forest is managed as a grouse moor and burning is carried out in accordance with a muirburn management plan.

A large part of the site is subject to a Memorandum of Understanding, the co-signatories of which are Balmoral Estate, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Forestry Authority and the Deer Commission for Scotland.

5. Site protection status and relation with CORINE biotopes:

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level

Code	% cover
UK04 (SSSI/ASSI)	13.4