

EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds:

CITATION FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA)

**RUM
(UK9001341)**

INCLUDING MARINE EXTENSION

Site Description:

Rum SPA includes the Inner Hebridean Island of Rum, which has a largely rocky coast with cliffs rising to 210m, and adjacent coastal waters. There are a few exposed beaches and a more sheltered shingle and boulder beach with intertidal mudflats in the inlet of Loch Scresort. Submaritime grasslands and heaths are widely distributed along the coast, notably on cliff tops and above exposed beaches on the west coast. The interior consists almost entirely of mountain and moorland with numerous streams and small lochs. Vestigial saltmarsh is restricted to small areas on gravelly silt deposits and there is a small sand-dune system backed by machair grading into alluvial marsh on the flood plain of the Kilmory River. The island is largely treeless with fragments of natural woodland and scrub only in a few rocky gullies, though there are additional areas of planted woodland.

The boundary of the Special Protection Area overlaps with Rum SSSI and the seaward extension extends approximately 4 km into the marine environment to include the seabed, water column and surface.

Qualifying interest (N.B. All figures relate to numbers at the time of classification):

Rum qualifies under **Article 4.1** by regularly supporting a population of European importance of the **Annex 1** species **red-throated diver** *Gavia stellata* (10 pairs, 1% of GB population) and **golden eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos* (4 pairs, 1% of GB population).

The site also qualifies under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting populations of European importance of the migratory species **Manx shearwater** *Puffinus puffinus* (61,000 pairs, 23% of the world biogeographic population).

Rum further qualifies under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting in **excess of 20,000 individual seabirds**. It regularly supports 130,000 seabirds including nationally important populations of the following species: **black-legged kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla* (1,500 pairs, 0.3% of GB population), **common guillemot** *Uria aalge* (4,000 individuals, 0.4% of GB population), and **Manx shearwater** (61,000 pairs).

Area: 46,716.21 Ha
National Grid Reference: NM 370980
OS 1:50,000 sheet - 22

Classified on 31st August 1982, with marine extension classified on 25th September 2009

Scottish Natural Heritage
September 2009

.