

EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds

CITATION FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA)

**FOWLSHEUGH
(UK9002271)**

INCLUDING MARINE EXTENSION

Site Description:

Fowlsheugh SPA, located 4 km south of Stonehaven on the east coast of Aberdeenshire in north-east Scotland, is a 10.15 ha stretch of sheer cliffs, between 30m and 60m high, cut mostly from basalt and conglomerate rocks of Old Red Sandstone age.

The boundary of the SPA overlaps with the boundaries of Fowlsheugh SSSI. The seaward extension extends 2 km into the marine environment and includes the seabed, water column and surface.

Qualifying Interest (All figures relate to the numbers at the time of classification except where amended by the 2001 Review):

Fowlsheugh SPA qualifies under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting **in excess of 20,000 individual seabirds**. The colony regularly supports 145,000 seabirds. The colony further qualifies under Article 4.2 by regularly supporting populations of European importance of the **migratory** species: **common guillemot** *Uria aalge* (56,450 individuals, 5% of GB population, 1.7% of Western European population), and **black-legged kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla* (36,650 pairs, 7.5% of the GB population, 1.2 % of World population). The colony also regularly supports nationally important populations of **razorbill** *Alca torda* (5,800 individuals, 3.9% of the GB population), **Northern fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis* (1,170 pairs, 0.2% of the GB population), and **herring gull** *Larus argentatus* (3,190 pairs, 2% of the GB population).

Area: 1,303.54 Ha

National Grid References: NO 879836 to NO 869782

OS sheet 1:50,000 - sheet 45

Classified on 31st August 1992, including marine extension classified on 25th September 2009

**Scottish Natural Heritage
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