

EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds

CITATION FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA)

**TROUP, PENNAN AND LION'S HEADS
(UK9002471)**

INCLUDING MARINE EXTENSION

Site description:

The Troup, Pennan and Lion's Heads Special Protection Area is a 9 km stretch of sea cliffs along the Aberdeenshire coast. The cliffs support large colonies of breeding seabirds.

The boundary of the Special Protection Area overlaps with the boundary of Gamrie and Pennan coast SSSI and the seaward extension extends approximately 2 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 except where amended by the 2001 SPA Review):

The site qualifies under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting over 20,000 individual breeding seabirds. In 1995 the site supported about **150,000** individual **seabirds** of 9 species.

The site qualifies further under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting internationally important breeding populations of the **migratory** species **black-legged kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla* (31,600 pairs in 1995; 6% of the British population and 1% of the total population of the sub-species *R. t. tridactyla*) and **common guillemot** *Uria aalge* (44,600 individuals in 1995; 4% of the British and 1% of total population of the sub-species *U. a. aalge* and *U. a. albionis*).

In addition to the species mentioned above, the assemblage of breeding seabirds includes the regularly occurring migratory species **Northern fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis* (4,400 pairs), **herring gull** *Larus argentatus* (4,200 pairs; 2% of the British breeding population), and **razorbill** *Alca torda* (4,800 individuals). All figures in brackets are estimates for 1995.

Area: 3,367.21 ha

National Grid Reference: NJ 846656

Latitude & Longitude: 57°41'37"N 02°16'11"W

OS Sheet 1:50,000 - 30

Classified on 14 March 1997, with marine extension classified on 25th September 2009

**Scottish Natural Heritage
September 2009**