

EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds
CITATION FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA)

**FETLAR
(UK9002031)**

INCLUDING MARINE EXTENSION

Site Description:

Fetlar is an island in the Shetland group, lying to the east and south respectively of the larger islands of Yell and Unst. The species-rich heath, bog and mire communities on the island support an important and characteristic breeding bird community, with the cliffs, rocky shores, and adjacent coastal waters important for breeding seabirds.

Fetlar SPA overlaps North Fetlar SSSI, Lamb Hoga SSSI and Trona Mires SSSI. 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):

Fetlar SPA qualifies under **Article 4.1** by regularly supporting populations of European importance of the **Annex 1** species: **red-necked phalarope** *Phalaropus lobatus* (23 pairs, 80% of the GB population) and **Arctic tern** *Sterna paradisaea* (1,065 pairs, 1% of the GB population).

Fetlar SPA further qualifies under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting populations of European importance of the **migratory** species: **whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus* (65 pairs, <0.1% Europe/W Africa biogeographic population); **great skua** *Stercorarius skua* (508 pairs, 3.7% of world biogeographic population) and **dunlin** *Calidris alpina schinzii* (90 pairs, 0.8% of the temperate European biogeographic population).

Fetlar SPA also qualifies under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting **in excess of 20,000 individual seabirds**. The site regularly supports 22,000 seabirds including nationally important populations of the following species: Arctic skua *Stercorarius parasiticus* (130 pairs, 4% of the GB population), Northern fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* (9,500 pairs, 2% of the GB population), great skua (508 pairs), Arctic tern (1,065 pairs) and red-necked phalarope (23 pairs).

Area: 16,962.16 Ha
National Grid References: HU 625930, 602987, 670915
OS Sheet 1:50,000 - 1 & 2

Classified on 29th March 1994, with marine extension classified on 25th September 2009

**Scottish Natural Heritage
September 2009**