

EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds

CITATION FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA)

**ST ABB'S HEAD TO FAST CASTLE
(UK9004271)**

INCLUDING MARINE EXTENSION

Site Description:

St Abb's Head to Fast Castle SPA comprises an area of sea cliffs and coastal strip stretching over 10km along the Berwickshire Coast north of St Abbs.

The boundary of the SPA overlaps with that of St Abb's Head to Fast Castle SSSI, and the seaward extension extends approximately 1 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):

St Abb's Head to Fast Castle SPA qualifies under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting **in excess of 20,000 individual seabirds**. The site regularly supports 79,560 seabirds including nationally important populations of the following species: **razorbill** *Alca torda* (2,180 individuals, 1% of the GB population); **common guillemot** *Uria aalge* (31,750 individuals, 3% of the GB population); **black-legged kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla* (21,170 pairs, 4% of the GB population); **herring gull** *Larus argentatus* (1,160 pairs, 0.7% of the GB population); and **European shag** *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* (560 pairs, 1% of the GB population).

Area: 1,736.52 Ha

National Grid Reference: NT 880699

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Classified on 11th August 1997, with marine extension classified on 25th September 2009

**Scottish Natural Heritage
September 2009**