

Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conservation of wild birds (this is the codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended)

CITATION FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA)

MONACH ISLANDS (UK9001071)

Site Description:

Monach Islands SPA lies about 10km south west of North Uist. It comprises a group of five low-lying islands, together regarded as one of the best British examples of uncultivated machair, containing areas of sandy and rocky shore, sand dunes, maritime grasslands, fens, marshes and shallow lochs.

The boundaries of Monach Islands SPA are coincident with those of the Monach Isles Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Qualifying Interest N.B All figures relate to numbers at the time of classification:

Monach Islands SPA qualifies under **Article 4.1** by regularly supporting populations of European importance of the **Annex 1** species: **little tern** *Sternula albifrons* (1987, 25 pairs, 1% of the GB population) and **Greenland barnacle goose** *Branta leucopsis* (1988, over the last five aerial surveys an average of 760 wintering individuals, 3% of the GB population).

Area: 600.07 ha
National Grid Reference: NF627622
OS Sheet 1:50,000 - 22

Classified on 19 September 1994

This (amended) citation adopted on 20 April 2018.