

CITATION FOR SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA)

**WEST WESTRAY
(UK9002101)**

INCLUDING MARINE EXTENSION

Site Description:

West Westray SPA is an 8 km stretch of sea cliffs, together with adjacent grassland and heathland, along the west coast of the island of Westray in Orkney. The cliffs support large colonies of breeding auks and kittiwakes while the grassland and heathland areas support breeding colonies of skuas and terns.

The boundary of the SPA overlaps with that of the West Westray 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):

West Westray qualifies under **Article 4.1** by regularly supporting populations of European importance of the **Annex 1** species: **Arctic tern** *Sterna paradisaea* (1,140 pairs; 3% of the British breeding population).

The SPA also qualifies under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting populations of European importance of the **migratory** species: **common guillemot** *Uria aalge* (42,150 individuals, 1.2% of the North Atlantic biogeographic population).

The SPA further qualifies under **Article 4.2** by regularly supporting **in excess of 20,000 individual seabirds**. West Westray regularly supports 113,000 seabirds including nationally important populations of the following species: **razorbill** *Alca torda* (1,946 individuals, 1% of the GB population); **black-legged kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla* (23,900 pairs, 5% of the GB population); **Arctic skua** *Stercorarius parasiticus* (78 pairs; 2% of the GB population) and **Northern fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis* (1,400 pairs, 0.2% of the GB population).

Area: 3,781.29 ha

National Grid Reference: HY 425464

OS Sheet 1:50,000 - 5

Classified on 16th August 1996, with marine extension classified on 25th September 2009

**Scottish Natural Heritage
September 2009**