

# Conservation objectives for Braemar Pockmarks Special Area of Conservation

February 2018



## What the conservation advice package includes

The information provided in this document sets out the site's conservation objectives. This forms part of JNCC's formal conservation advice package for the site and must be read in conjunction with all parts of the package as listed below:

- [Background Document](#) explaining where to find the advice package, JNCC's role in the provision of conservation advice, how the advice has been prepared, when to refer to it and how to apply it;
- Conservation Objectives setting out the broad ecological aims for the site (this document);
- [Statements](#) on:
  - the site's qualifying feature condition;
  - conservation benefits that the site can provide; and
  - conservation measures needed to support achievement of the conservation objectives set for the site.
- [Supplementary Advice on Conservation Objectives](#) (SACO) providing more detailed and site-specific information on the conservation objectives; and
- [Advice on Operations](#) providing information on those human activities that, if taking place within or near the site, can impact it and present a risk to the achievement of the conservation objectives.

The most up-to-date conservation advice for this site can be downloaded from the conservation advice tab in the [Site Information Centre](#) (SIC) accessible on JNCC's website.

JNCC provide supplementary advice on the conservation objectives in the SACO document (see link in the box above). The SACO is essential reading to support interpretation of these conservation objectives set out below. It provides further detail and site-specific information for each feature within the site, including which of the attributes need to be maintained and which ones restored.

The Conservation Objectives for the Braemar Pockmarks SAC are:

**For the feature to be in favourable condition thus ensuring site integrity in the long term and contribution to Favourable Conservation Status of Annex I Submarine structures made by leaking gases.**

**This contribution would be achieved by maintaining or restoring, subject to natural change:**

- **The extent and distribution of the qualifying habitat in the site;**
- **The structure and function of the qualifying habitat in the site; and**
- **The supporting processes on which the qualifying habitat relies.**