European Community Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC)

Fourth Report by the United Kingdom under Article 17

on the implementation of the Directive
from January 2013 to December 2018

Conservation status assessment for the habitat:

H1340 - Inland salt meadows

UNITED KINGDOM

IMPORTANT NOTE - PLEASE READ

- The information in this document represents the UK Report on the conservation status of this habitat, submitted to the European Commission as part of the 2019 UK Reporting under Article 17 of the EU Habitats Directive.
- It is based on supporting information provided by the geographically-relevant Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies, which is documented separately.
- The 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document provides details on how this supporting information contributed to the UK Report and the fields that were completed for each parameter.
- The reporting fields and options used are aligned to those set out in the European Commission guidance.
- Maps showing the distribution and range of the habitat are included (where available).
- Explanatory notes (where provided) are included at the end. These provide additional audit trail information to that included within the UK assessments. Further underpinning explanatory notes are available in the related country-level and/or UK offshore-level reports.
- Some of the reporting fields have been left blank because either: (i) there was insufficient information to complete the field; and/or (ii) completion of the field was not obligatory.
- The UK-level reporting information for all habitats and species is also available in spreadsheet format.

Visit the JNCC website, https://jncc.gov.uk/article17, for further information on UK Article 17 reporting.

Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 17 for Annex I habitat types (Annex D)

NATIONAL LEVEL

1. General information

1.1 Member State	**UK**
1.2 Habitat code	**1340 - Inland salt meadows**

2. Maps

2.1 Year or period	2013-2018
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.3 Distribution map Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
2.4 Additional maps	No

BIOGEOGRAPHICAL LEVEL

3. Biogeographical and marine regions

3.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the habitat occurs	**Atlantic (ATL)**
3.2 Sources of information	England Jefferson RG 1998 Desk study of the status of inland salt meadows in Great Britain. Unpublished report to JNCC Chatters, C 2017 Saltmarsh. Bloomsbury, London Natural England Protected sites internal database CMSI - Designated Sites View - 2015 report of Site condition for Pasturefields saltmarsh SSSI/SAC Lee, J.A. 1975. The conservation of British Inland salt marshes. Biological Conservation, 8:143-151 Lee, J.A. 1977. The vegetation of British Inland salt marshes. Biological Conservation, 65:673-698 Natural England CMSi condition data JNCC reporting data for H6410 submiittted to EU for the 2013 Article 17 reporting round.

4. Range

4.1 Surface area (in km²)	400	
4.2 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018	
4.3 Short-term trend Direction	Stable (0)	
4.4 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum
4.5 Short-term trend Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate	
4.6 Long-term trend Period		
4.7 Long-term trend Direction		
4.8 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum
4.9 Long-term trend Method used		
4.10 Favourable reference range	a) Area (km²)	400
	b) Operator	
	c) Unknown	No
	d) Method	The FRR is approximately equal to the current range area. The approach taken to set the FRR is explained in the 2007 and 2013 UK Article 17 habitat reports (see http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4064 and http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6563).

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4.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	No change The change is mainly due to:
4.12 Additional information	

5. Area covered by habitat

5.1 Year or period	2013-2018			
5.2 Surface area (in km²)	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Best single value	0.005
5.3 Type of estimate	Best estimate			
5.4 Surface area Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate			
5.5 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018			
5.6 Short-term trend Direction	Stable (0)			
5.7 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Confidence interval	
5.8 Short-term trend Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate			
5.9 Long-term trend Period				
5.10 Long-term trend Direction				
5.11 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Confidence interval	
5.12 Long-term trend Method used				
5.13 Favourable reference area	a) Area (km²)	0.005		
	b) Operator			
	c) Unknown	No		
	d) Method	The FRA is approximately equal to the current area. The approach taken to set the FRA is explained in the 2007 and 2013 UK Article 17 habitat reports (see http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4064 and http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6563).		
5.14 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	No change The change is mainly due to:			
5.15 Additional information				

6. Structure and functions

6.1 Condition of habitat	a) Area in good condition (km²)	Minimum	0	Maximum	0
	b) Area in not-good condition (km²)	Minimum	0.005	Maximum	0.005
	c) Area where condition is not known (km²)	Minimum	0	Maximum	0
6.2 Condition of habitat Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate				
6.3 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Period	2007-2018				
6.4 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Direction	Stable (0)				

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6.5 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
6.6 Typical species	Has the list of typical species changed in comparison to the previous reporting period? No
6.7 Typical species Method used	
6.8 Additional information	

7. Main pressures and threats

7.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

Pressure	Ranking
Abandonment of grassland management (e.g. cessation of grazing or mowing) (A06)	M
Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters (A26)	H
Drainage for use as agricultural land (A31)	H
Mixed source air pollution, air-borne pollutants (J03)	M
Droughts and decreases in precipitation due to climate change (N02)	M

Threat	Ranking
Abandonment of grassland management (e.g. cessation of grazing or mowing) (A06)	M
Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters (A26)	H
Drainage for use as agricultural land (A31)	H
Mixed source air pollution, air-borne pollutants (J03)	M
Droughts and decreases in precipitation due to climate change (N02)	M

7.2 Sources of information

7.3 Additional information

8. Conservation measures

8.1 Status of measures	a) Are measures needed?	Yes
	b) Indicate the status of measures	Measures identified, but none yet taken
8.2 Main purpose of the measures taken		
8.3 Location of the measures taken		
8.4 Response to the measures		
8.5 List of main conservation measures		

Maintain existing extensive agricultural practices and agricultural landscape features (CA03)
Reduce diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters from agricultural activities (CA11)
Manage drainage and irrigation operations and infrastructures in agriculture (CA15)
Reduce impact of mixed source pollution (CJ01)

Adopt climate change mitigation measures (CN01)

Implement climate change adaptation measures (CN02)

8.6 Additional information

9. Future prospects

9.1 Future prospects of parameters	a) Range	Good
	b) Area	Good
	c) Structure and functions	Bad
9.2 Additional information	Future trend of Range is Overall stable; Future trend of Area is Overall stable; and Future trend of Structure and functions is Negative - slight/moderate deterioration	

10. Conclusions

10.1. Range	Favourable (FV)
10.2. Area	Favourable (FV)
10.3. Specific structure and functions (incl. typical species)	Unfavourable - Bad (U2)
10.4. Future prospects	Unfavourable - Bad (U2)
10.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Unfavourable - Bad (U2)
10.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status	Stable (=)
10.7 Change and reasons for change in conservation status and conservation status trend	a) Overall assessment of conservation status No change The change is mainly due to: b) Overall trend in conservation status Genuine change The change is mainly due to: Genuine change
10.8 Additional information	Conclusion on Range reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Range surface area is stable; and (ii) the current Range surface area is approximately equal to the Favourable Reference Range. Conclusion on Area covered by habitat reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Area is stable; and (ii) the current Area is approximately equal to the Favourable Reference Area. Conclusion on Structure and functions reached because habitat condition data indicates that more than 25% of the habitat is in unfavourable (not good) condition. Conclusion on Future prospects reached because: (i) the Future prospects for Range are good; (ii) the Future prospects for Area covered by habitat are good; and (iii) the Future prospects for Structure and functions are bad. Overall assessment of Conservation Status is Unfavourable-bad because one or more of the conclusions are Unfavourable-bad. Overall trend in Conservation Status is based on the combination of the short-term trends for Range - stable, Area covered by habitat - stable, and Structure and functions - stable. The Overall trend in Conservation Status has changed between 2013 and 2019

because the Structure and functions trend has changed from increasing to stable.

11. Natura 2000 (pSCIs, SCIs, SACs) coverage for Annex I habitat types

11.1 Surface area of the habitat type inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network (in km² in biogeographical/ marine region)	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Best single value 0.5
11.2 Type of estimate	Best estimate
11.3 Surface area of the habitat type inside the network Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
11.4 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition within the network Direction	Stable (0)
11.5 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition within network Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
11.6 Additional information	

12. Complementary information

12.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends	
12.2 Other relevant information	

Distribution Map

Figure 1: UK distribution map for H1340 - Inland salt meadows. Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

The 10km grid square distribution map is based on available habitat records which are considered to be representative of the distribution within the current reporting period. For further details see the 2019 Article17 UK Approach document.

Range Map

Figure 2: UK range map for H1340 - Inland salt meadows. Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

The range map has been produced by applying a bespoke range mapping tool for Article 17 reporting (produced by JNCC) to the 10km grid square distribution map presented in Figure 1. The alpha value for this habitat was 25km. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.