# 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:

H8210 - Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation

**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 offshorelevel 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.

### **NATIONAL LEVEL**

### 1. General information

1.1 Member State	UK
1.2 Habitat code	8210 - Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation

### 2. Maps

2.1 Year or period	1970-2018
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.3 Distribution map Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

2.4 Additional maps No

### **BIOGEOGRAPHICAL LEVEL**

### 3. Biogeographical and marine regions

### 3.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the habitat occurs

#### 3.2 Sources of information

#### Atlantic (ATL)

**England** 

BACKSHALL, J., MANLEY, J., REBANE, M. 2001. Chapter 10: Crags, scree and limestone pavement. In: The Upland Management Handbook. English Nature, Peterborough.

JONES, B. 2010. UK BAP PRIORITY HABITAT ACTION PLAN: Inland Rock Outcrop and Scree Habitats. Countryside Council for Wales (Produced on behalf of UK BAP Upland Group). TURAL ENGLAND. 2008. Chapter 3.9 Inland Rock. In: State of the Natural Environment 2008. Natural England.

ORANGE, A. 2008. Saxicolous lichen and bryophyte communities in Upland Britain. JNCC Report No: 404.

Http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0020/120197/inland-rock-outcrops-and-scree-habitats.pdf

http://www.lakelandwildlife.co.uk/biodiversity/pdfs/Rock habitats 100121 finished.pdf

Scotland

References within -

http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/Article17Consult\_20131010/H8210\_SCOTLAND.pdf SNH SCM database, extract A2298772, 2017, processed and summarised in A2498872.

Calcareous rocky slope feature type (JNCC, (2009), Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Upland Habitats, Version July 2009 and previous versions) http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-2237

Wales

Blackstock, T.H., Howe, E.A., Stevens, J.P., Burrows, C. R., and P.S Jones. 2010 Habitats of Wales. University of Wales Press, Cardiff.

Countryside Council for Wales. 2008 CORE MANAGEMENT PLAN: Mynydd Llangatwg (Mynydd Llangattock) Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Siambre Ddu SSSI, Buckland Coach House and Ice House SSSI and Foxwood SSSI, which together comprise Usk Bat Sites Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Forster Brown, C. 2015. Chasmophytic Lower Plant Survey of Cadair Idris. Unpublished report to NRW.

Guest, D. 2012. Assessing pressures and threats for article 17 reporting based on information in CCW's Actions Database. CCW HQ internal document.

Hodgetts N. 2003 Bryophyte Survey of Pen y Gogarth/Great Ormes Head SSSI.

CCW North East Region Report. CCW/NEA/1

Joint Nature Conservation Committee. 2007. Second Report by the UK under Article 17 on the implementation of the Habitats Directive from January 2001 to December 2006. Peterborough: JNCC. Available from: www.jncc.gov.uk/article17 Natural Resources Wales. 2013. Supporting documentation for the Third Report by the United Kingdom under Article 17 on the implementation of the Directive from January 2007 to December 2012 Conservation status assessment for Habitats: H8210 - Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation. Available from:

http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/Article17Consult\_20131010/H8210\_WALES.pdf [Accessed 8th June 2018]

Preston, C.D., Pearman, D.A., & Dines, T.D. 2002. New atlas of the British and Irish flora: an atlas of the vascular plants of Britain, Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Stevens D. P., Smith S. L. N., Blackstock T. H., Bosanquet S. D. S. & Stevens J. P. 2010. Grasslands of Wales. A survey of lowland species-rich grasslands, 1987-2004. University of Wales Press, Cardiff.

Stevens, J., Sherry J. and A Turner. 2012. H8120 Calcareous Rocky Slopes with Chasmophytic Vegetation Inventory.

Wales Audit Office, 2012. Annual Improvement Report. Snowdonia National Park Authority.

Wareham, D. (2003). The effects of the feral goat (Capra hircus L.) on the upland vegetation of Cwm Idwal NNR and the Tryfan area of Snowdonia, summer 2002. CCW Science Report No: 567.

N.Ireland

Cooper, A. & McCann, T. (2001). The Northern Ireland Countryside Survey 2000. Environment and Heritage Service, Belfast

Cooper, A., McCann, T. and Rogers, D. (2009) Northern Ireland Countryside Survey 2007: Broad Habitat Change 1998-2007. Northern Ireland Environment Agency. Northern Ireland Environment Agency Research and Development Series No. 09/06. Belfast. 58 pp.

McCann, T., Rogers, D. and Cooper, A. (2009) Northern Ireland Countryside Survey 2007: Field methods and technical manual. Northern Ireland Environment Agency. Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Research and Development Series No 09/07. Belfast.

Murray, R., McCann, T. and Cooper, A. (1992). A Land Classification and Landscape Ecological Study of Northern Ireland. Department of the Environment NI and Department of Environmental Studies, University of Ulster, Coleraine. Rodwell, J.S. (1992). British Plant Communities. Volume 3, Grasslands and

Montane Communities. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

NIEA. Internal Condition Assessment Reports (various sites and years).

NIEA. Internal Survey Reports (various sites and years).

Rodwell, J.S., Dring, J.C., Averis, A.B.V., Proctor, M.C.F., Malloch, A.J.C., Schaminee, J.H.J & Dargie, T.C.D. 1998. Review of Coverage of the National Vegetation Classification. Lancaster: Unit of Vegetation Science report to the Joint Nature Conservation Committee.

Data on aerial Nitrogen deposition taken from Air Pollution Information System website - http://www.apis.ac.uk/

### 4. Range

4.1 Surface area (in km²)

4.2 Short-term trend Period

66381.28

2007-2018

4.3 Short-term trend Direction

4.4 Short-term trend Magnitude

4.5 Short-term trend Method used

4.6 Long-term trend Period

4.7 Long-term trend Direction

4.8 Long-term trend Magnitude

4.9 Long-term trend Method used

4.10 Favourable reference range

Stable (0)

b) Maximum a) Minimum

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

a) Minimum

b) Maximum

a) Area (km²)

66381.28

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).

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

1987-2018

5.2 Surface area (in km²)

a) Minimum

b) Maximum

c) Best single 7

value

5.3 Type of estimate

5.4 Surface area Method used

5.5 Short-term trend Period

5.6 Short-term trend Direction

5.7 Short-term trend Magnitude

Best estimate

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

2007-2018

Stable (0)

a) Minimum

b) Maximum

Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data

c) Confidence

interval

5.8 Short-term trend Method used

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) 7

b) Operator

c) Unknown

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 3.45934	Maximum 3.45934
	b) Area in not-good condition (km²)	Minimum 3.23765	Maximum 3.23765
	c) Area where condition is not known (km²)	Minimum 0.303	Maximum 0.303
6.2 Condition of habitat Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data		
6.3 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Period	2004-2018		
6.4 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Direction	Increasing (+)		
6.5 Short-term trend of habitat area	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data		
in good condition Method used	Has the list of typical specie	es changed in comparison	to the previous No
6.6 Typical species	reporting period?		
6.7 Typical species Method used			
6.8 Additional information			

### 7. Main pressures and threats

### 7.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

Pressure	Ranking
Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock (A09)	Н
Sports, tourism and leisure activities (F07)	Н
Problematic native species (I04)	M
Mixed source air pollution, air-borne pollutants (J03)	Н
Threat	Ranking
Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock (A09)	Н
Sports, tourism and leisure activities (F07)	Н
Other invasive alien species (other then species of Union concern) (IO2)	М
Problematic native species (I04)	M
Mixed source air pollution, air-borne pollutants (J03)	Н

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 and taken	
8.2 Main purpose of the measures taken	Restore the habitat of the species (related to 'Habitat for the species')		
8.3 Location of the measures taken	Both inside and outside Natura 2000		
8.4 Response to the measures	Medium-term results (within the next two reporting periods, 2019-2030)		

8.5 List of main conservation measures

Adapt mowing, grazing and other equivalent agricultural activities (CA05)

Reduce impact of outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities (CF03)

Management, control or eradication of other invasive alien species (CIO3)

Management of problematic native species (CI05)

Reduce impact of mixed source pollution (CJ01)

Management of habitats (others than agriculture and forest) to slow, stop or reverse natural processes (CLO1)

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

10.2. Area

10.3. Specific structure and functions (incl. typical species)

10.4. Future prospects

10.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status

10.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status

10.7 Change and reasons for change in conservation status and conservation status trend

Favourable (FV)

Favourable (FV)

Unfavourable - Bad (U2)

Unfavourable - Bad (U2)

Unfavourable - Bad (U2)

Improving (+)

a) Overall assessment of conservation status

#### No change

The change is mainly due to:

b) Overall trend in conservation status

#### No change

The change is mainly due to:

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 is 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 - increasing. If the negative future trend in Structure and functions is also taken into account, the Overall trend would be 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)
- 11.2 Type of estimate
- 11.3 Surface area of the habitat type inside the network Method used
- 11.4 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition within the network Direction
- 11.5 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition within network Method used
- 11.6 Additional information

- a) Minimum
- b) Maximum
- c) Best single value 14.199

Best estimate

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

Increasing (+)

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

### 12. Complementary information

12.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

12.2 Other relevant information

### **Distribution Map**

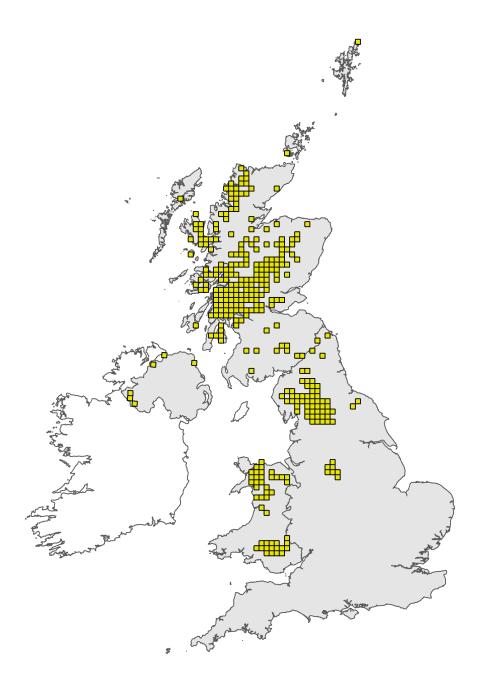


Figure 1: UK distribution map for H8210 - Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation. Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

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

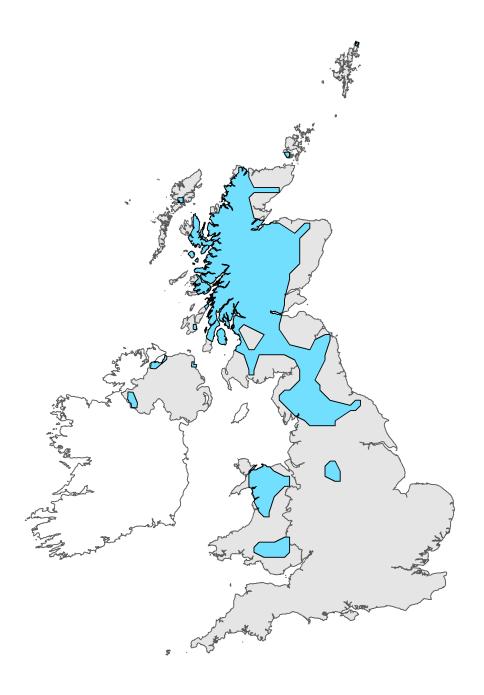


Figure 2: UK range map for H8210 - Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation. Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

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.