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

Supporting documentation for the
conservation status assessment for the habitat:

H9180 - Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines

ENGLAND

IMPORTANT NOTE - PLEASE READ

- The information in this document is a country-level contribution to 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.
- The 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document provides details on how this supporting information was used to produce the UK Report.
- The UK Report on the conservation status of this habitat is provided in a separate document.
- The reporting fields and options used are aligned to those set out in the European Commission guidance.
- Explanatory notes (where provided) by the country are included at the end. These provide an audit trail of relevant supporting information.
- Some of the reporting fields have been left blank because either: (i) there was insufficient information to complete the field; (ii) completion of the field was not obligatory; and/or (iii) the field was only relevant at UK-level (sections 10 Future prospects and 11 Conclusions).
- For technical reasons, the country-level future trends for Range, Area covered by habitat and Structure and functions are only available in a separate spreadsheet that contains all the country-level supporting information.
- The country-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 (England information only)**
1.2 Habitat code	**9180 - Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines**

2. Maps

2.1 Year or period	2013-
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	**Atlantic (ATL)**
3.2 Sources of information	Natural England's SSSI series review (unpublished)

4. Range

4.1 Surface area (in km²)		
4.2 Short-term trend Period		
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		
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) b) Operator c) Unknown No d) Method	
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	2012-2018			
5.2 Surface area (in km²)	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Best single value	75
5.3 Type of estimate	Best estimate			
5.4 Surface area Method used	Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data			
5.5 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018			
5.6 Short-term trend Direction	Stable (0)			

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

5.7 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Confidence interval
5.8 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data		
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) b) Operator c) Unknown No d) Method		
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 8.3	Maximum 8.3
	b) Area in not-good condition (km²)	Minimum 15.3	Maximum 15.3
	c) Area where condition is not known (km²)	Minimum 51.4	Maximum 51.4
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	2007-2018		
6.4 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Direction	Stable (0)		
6.5 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data		
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
Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock (A09)	H
Management of fishing stocks and game (G08)	H
Mixed source air pollution, air-borne pollutants (J03)	H
Agricultural activities generating air pollution (A27)	M
Removal of dead and dying trees, including debris (B07)	M
Logging without replanting or natural regrowth (B05)	M

Interspecific relations (competition, predation, parasitism, pathogens) (L06)	H
Replanting with or introducing non-native or non-typical species (including new species and GMOs) (B03)	M
Removal of small landscape features for agricultural land parcel consolidation (hedges, stone walls, rushes, open ditches, springs, solitary trees, etc.) (A05)	M

Threat	Ranking
Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock (A09)	H
Management of fishing stocks and game (G08)	M
Mixed source air pollution, air-borne pollutants (J03)	H
Agricultural activities generating air pollution (A27)	M
Logging without replanting or natural regrowth (B05)	M
Interspecific relations (competition, predation, parasitism, pathogens) (L06)	H
Increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change (N03)	M
Replanting with or introducing non-native or non-typical species (including new species and GMOs) (B03)	M
Removal of small landscape features for agricultural land parcel consolidation (hedges, stone walls, rushes, open ditches, springs, solitary trees, etc.) (A05)	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 and taken
8.2 Main purpose of the measures taken		Maintain the current range, population and/or 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)
Reducing the impact of (re-) stocking for fishing and hunting, of artificial feeding and predator control (CG03)
Reduce impact of mixed source pollution (CJ01)
Reduce/eliminate air pollution from agricultural activities (CA12)
Adapt/change forest management and exploitation practices (CB05)
Adapt/manage reforestation and forest regeneration (CB04)
Other measures related to natural processes (CL04)
Adopt climate change mitigation measures (CN01)

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

Restore small landscape features on agricultural land (CA02)

8.6 Additional information	All SAC sites have IPENS and Site Nitrogen Action Plans (SNAPs)

9. Future prospects

9.1 Future prospects of parameters	a) Range b) Area c) Structure and functions
9.2 Additional information	

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	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	

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 37
11.2 Type of estimate	Best estimate
11.3 Surface area of the habitat type inside the network Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
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

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

12.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

12.2 Other relevant information

Distribution Map

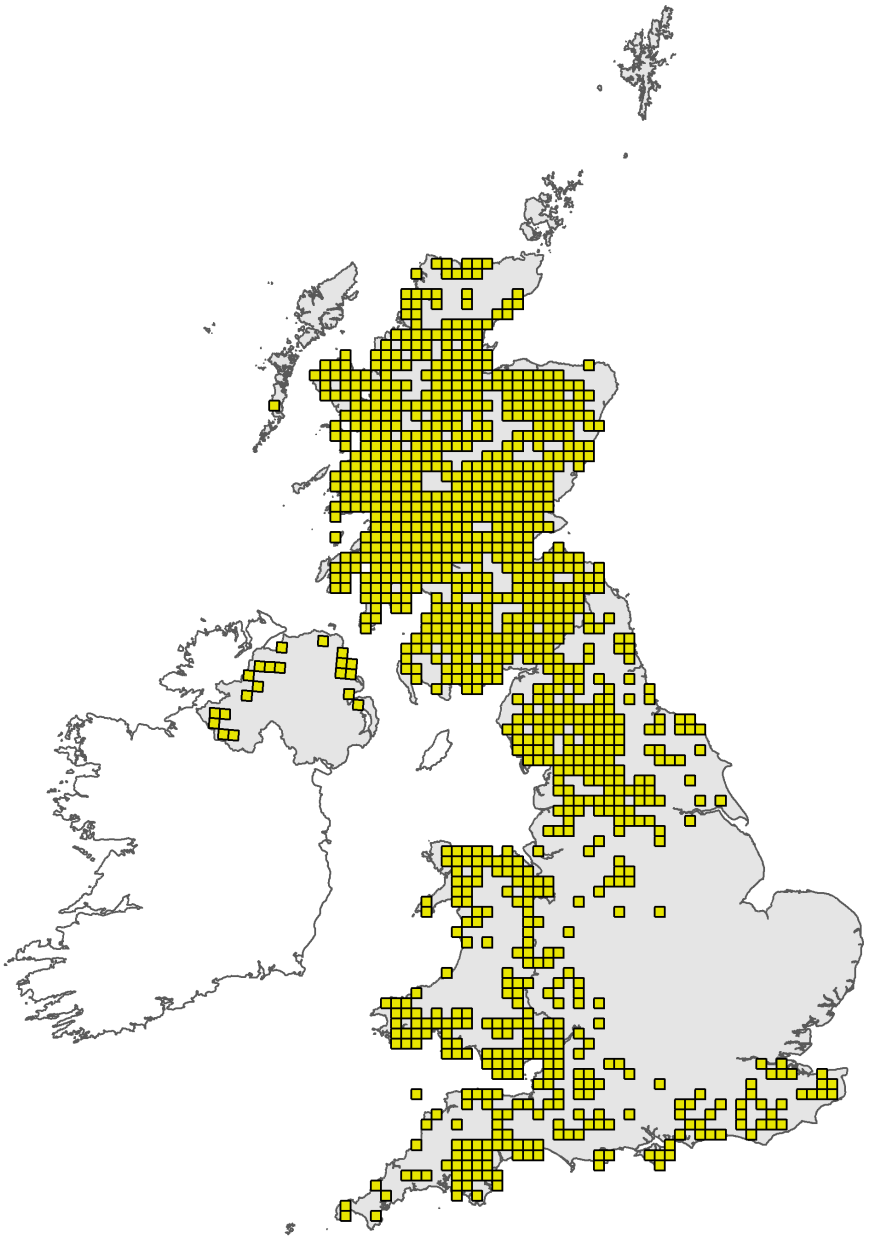

Figure 1: UK distribution map for H9180 - Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines. Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

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

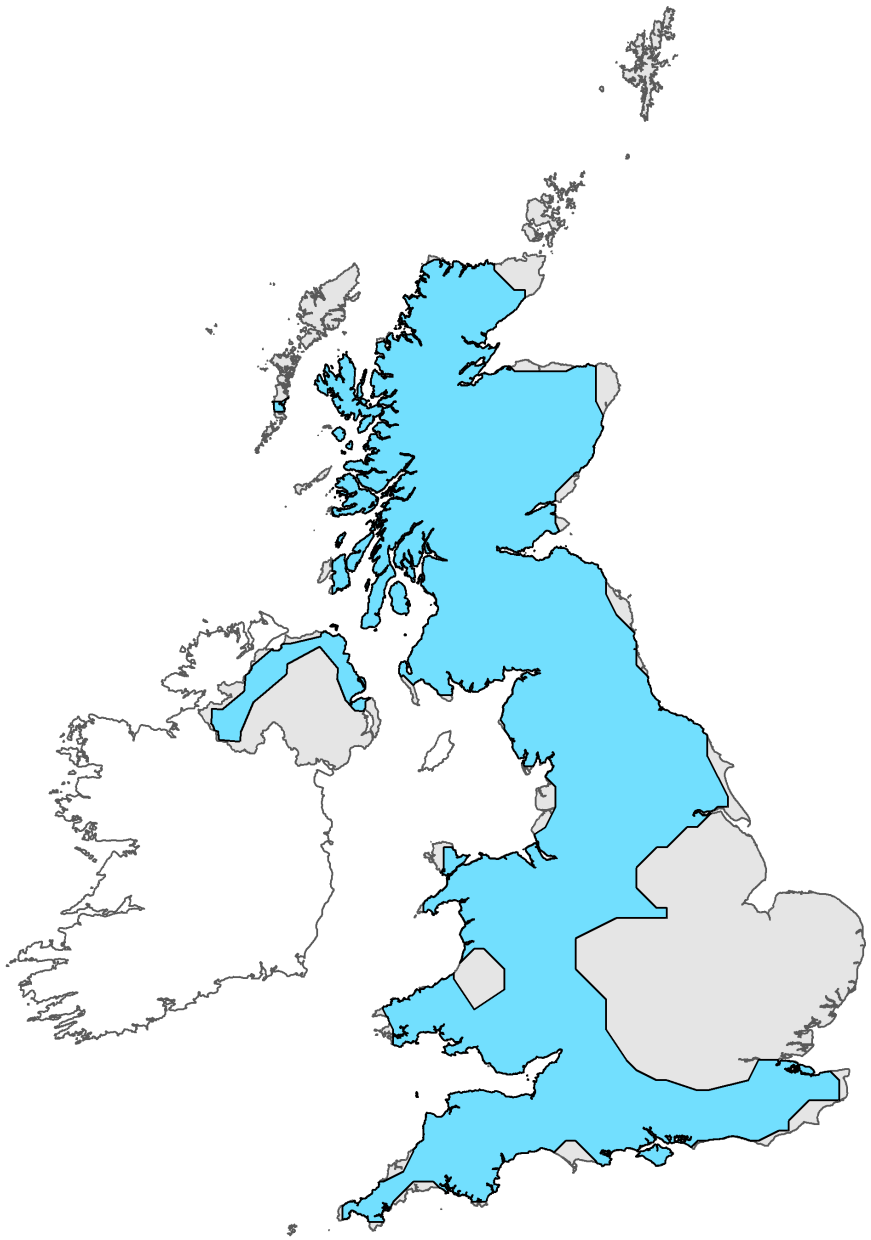

Figure 2: UK range map for H9180 - Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines. Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

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.

Explanatory Notes

Habitat code: 9180 Region code: ATL

Field label	Note
4.3 Short term trend; Direction	No evidence to suggest a change in trend direction since 2013 reporting round
5.1 Year or period	Previous report period to present
5.2 Surface area	No evidence for change since 2013 report
6.1 Condition of habitat	Figures taken from CSM data supplied from NE's CSMi dataset. Figures not felt to broadly represent the condition of the resource as a whole. Woodland is under-represented in the SSSI series (NE's SSSI series review 2016), and is generally undermanaged. Management effort focussed on maintaining or improving habitat condition inside protected sites is not reflected in effort outside the protected site series. The CSMi figures therefore probably overestimate the condition of the resource as a whole.
7.1 Characterisation of pressures/ threats	Threats: L06 tree disease is an ongoing concern and many new pathogens are appearing in the UK; A09, A27, J03, B05 and B03 likely to continue to be a threat; N03 This woodland typically grows on steep slopes. Increased precipitation events and related storms is likely to have a negative impact on the habitat; A05, fragmentation of the habitat will remain a problem. Agri-environment schemes can improve connectivity and reduce fragmentation; G08 The Deer Initiative project is likely to have a significant impact on deer populations by increasing cull intensities.
7.1 Characterisation of pressures/ threats	Pressures: A09 intensive overgrazing by livestock, particularly sheep, deer and rabbits continues to be a problem; G08 Deer numbers are very high in the range of this habitat, consequently there has been a high pressure on regeneration (CSM monitoring); J03 the CL for this habitat is exceeded throughout its range; L06 the presence of tree diseases such as acute oak decline, sudden oak death, Chalara ashdieback etc has had an impact on the health of the tree population in England; A27 H9180 woods can be negatively affected by spraydrift which causes localised nutrient enrichment or biocides, can lead to changes in soil and ground flora; B07 A lack of dead wood has been highlighted across English woods by the FC National Forest Inventory survey; B05 lack of natural regeneration is a pressure on these woods which results in a lack of future generations of trees; B03 Inappropriate planting of conifers, removal of understorey, introduction of alien species such as sycamore, rhododendron, cherry laurel and Turkey oak alter the structure of the woodland and change environmental conditions; A05 Agricultural intensification has resulted in the loss of hedges, trees and small patches of scrub in fields, which has increased fragmentation and isolation of the remaining woodlands.
8.1 Status of measures	Conservation measures have been identified through the HLF funded IPENS porject which has identified the main activities required to achieve favourable conservation status. Remedies for the conservation measures, although identified, have not always been
9.1 Future prospects of parameters	Range not expected to change; area expected to decrease due to increasing impact of Chalara ashdieback; S&F very negative due to exceedance of N_CLs and continued ipmact of Chalara ashdieback which it is anticipated will continue to have a negative effect on the overall health of the ash tree population
11.1 Surface area of the habitat type inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network	Figure provided by G. Hinton (Natural England) from CSM analysis.