

**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 species:

S1849 - Butcher's broom (*Ruscus aculeatus*)

UNITED KINGDOM

IMPORTANT NOTE - PLEASE READ

- The information in this document represents the UK Report on the conservation status of this species, 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 species 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 reports.
- 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 not relevant to this species (section 12 Natura 2000 coverage for Annex II species).
- 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.

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NATIONAL LEVEL

1. General information

1.1 Member State	UK
1.2 Species code	1849
1.3 Species scientific name	<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>
1.4 Alternative species scientific name	
1.5 Common name (in national language)	Butcher's broom

2. Maps

2.1 Sensitive species	No
2.2 Year or period	2012-2018
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.4 Distribution map Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
2.5 Additional maps	No

3. Information related to Annex V Species (Art. 14)

3.1 Is the species taken in the wild/exploited?	No																
3.2 Which of the measures in Art. 14 have been taken?	<table> <tr> <td>a) regulations regarding access to property</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>b) temporary or local prohibition of the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>c) regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>d) application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>e) establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>f) regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale or transport for sale of specimens</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>g) breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>h) other measures</td><td>No</td></tr> </table>	a) regulations regarding access to property	No	b) temporary or local prohibition of the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation	No	c) regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens	No	d) application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations	No	e) establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas	No	f) regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale or transport for sale of specimens	No	g) breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species	No	h) other measures	No
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3.3 Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild for Mammals and Acipenseridae (Fish)

a) Unit

b) Statistics/ quantity taken	Provide statistics/quantity per hunting season or per year (where season is not used) over the reporting period					
	Season/ year 1	Season/ year 2	Season/ year 3	Season/ year 4	Season/ year 5	Season/ year 6
Min. (raw, ie. not rounded)						
Max. (raw, ie. not rounded)						
Unknown	No	No	No	No	No	No

3.4. Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild Method used

3.5. Additional information

BIOGEOGRAPHICAL LEVEL

4. Biogeographical and marine regions

4.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the species occurs

Atlantic (ATL)

4.2 Sources of information

England
PRESTON, C.D., PEARMAN, D.A. & DINES, T.D. 2002. New Atlas of the British & Irish Flora. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Wales
Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland distribution database,
<https://database.bsbi.org/>
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](http://jncc.gov.uk/article17). [Accessed 25th May 2018]
NRW, 2013. Supporting documentation for the Third Report by the United Kingdom under Article 17 for Wales: . JNCC. Available from:
http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/Article17Consult_20131010/H8110_WALES.pdf [Accessed 25th May 2018]
Preston, C.D., Pearman, D.A. & Dines, T.D. 2002. New Atlas of the British and Irish Flora. Oxford University Press.
Stewart.B, Woodman. J.P. 2017. Glamorgan Rare Plant Register, Unpublished. BSBI
Wade, A.E., Kay, Q.O.N. & Ellis, R.G. 1994. Flora of Glamorgan. H.M.S.O.

5. Range

5.1 Surface area (km²)

66268.4

5.2 Short-term trend Period

2007-2018

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5.3 Short-term trend Direction	Stable (0)	
5.4 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum
5.5 Short-term trend Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate	
5.6 Long-term trend Period		
5.7 Long-term trend Direction		
5.8 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum
5.9 Long-term trend Method used		
5.10 Favourable reference range	a) Area (km ²) b) Operator c) Unknown d) Method	26322 The FRR is the same as in 2013. The value is considered to be large enough to support a viable population and no lower than the range estimate when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further information see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.
5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	Use of different method	
	The change is mainly due to:	Use of different method
5.12 Additional information	The current range surface area calculation does not represent the real range surface area. Change in availability of underpinning mapping data has resulted in an apparent decrease in range area compared to 2013, but this is not due to genuine change. Expert opinion considers the trend in range to be stable. The real range surface area is considered to be the range in 2013 - 104,434.15km ² . The current range surface area is above the FRR.	

6. Population

6.1 Year or period	2008-2018
6.2 Population size (in reporting unit)	a) Unit number of map 1x1 km grid cells (grids1x1) b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value 1033
6.3 Type of estimate	Minimum
6.4 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)	a) Unit number of map 10x10 km grid cells (grids10x10) b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value 338
6.5 Type of estimate	
6.6 Population size Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
6.7 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018
6.8 Short-term trend Direction	Stable (0)

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6.9 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Confidence interval	
6.10 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data	
6.11 Long-term trend Period		
6.12 Long-term trend Direction		
6.13 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Confidence interval	
6.14 Long-term trend Method used		
6.15 Favourable reference population (using the unit in 6.2 or 6.4)	a) Population size b) Operator c) Unknown d) Method	206 with unit number of map 10x10 km grid cells (grids10x10) The FRP is the same as in 2013. The value is considered to be large enough to support a viable population and no less than when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further information see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.
6.16 Change and reason for change in population size	No change The change is mainly due to:	
6.17 Additional information		

7. Habitat for the species

7.1 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat	a) Are area and quality of occupied habitat sufficient (for long-term survival)? b) Is there a sufficiently large area of unoccupied habitat of suitable quality (for long-term survival)?	Yes
7.2 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data	
7.3 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018	
7.4 Short-term trend Direction	Stable (0)	
7.5 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data	
7.6 Long-term trend Period		
7.7 Long-term trend Direction		
7.8 Long-term trend Method used		
7.9 Additional information		

8. Main pressures and threats

8.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

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Pressure	Ranking
No pressures (Xxp)	

Threat	Ranking
No threats (Xxt)	

8.2 Sources of information

8.3 Additional information

9. Conservation measures

9.1 Status of measures	a) Are measures needed?	No
	b) Indicate the status of measures	

9.2 Main purpose of the measures taken

9.3 Location of the measures taken

9.4 Response to the measures

9.5 List of main conservation measures

9.6 Additional information

10. Future prospects

10.1 Future prospects of parameters	a) Range	Good
	b) Population	Good
	c) Habitat of the species	Good

10.2 Additional information	Future trend of Range is Overall stable; Future trend of Population is Overall stable; and Future trend of Habitat for the species is Overall stable. For further information on how future trends inform the Future Prospects conclusion see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.
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11. Conclusions

11.1. Range	Favourable (FV)
11.2. Population	Favourable (FV)
11.3. Habitat for the species	Favourable (FV)
11.4. Future prospects	Favourable (FV)
11.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Favourable (FV)
11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status	Stable (=)
11.7 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:

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b) Overall trend in conservation status

No change

The change is mainly due to:

11.8 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 not less than the Favourable Reference Range.

Conclusion on Population reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Population size is stable; and (ii) the current Population size is not less than the Favourable Reference Population.

Conclusion on Habitat for the species reached because: (i) the area of occupied habitat is sufficiently large and (ii) the habitat quality is suitable for the long-term survival of the species; and (iii) the short-term trend in area of habitat is stable.

Conclusion on Future prospects reached because: (i) the Future prospects for Range are good; (ii) the Future prospects for Population are good; and (iii) the Future prospects for Habitat for the species are good.

Overall assessment of Conservation Status is Favourable because all of the conclusions are Favourable.

Overall trend in Conservation Status is based on the combination of the short-term trends for Range - stable, Population - stable, and Habitat for the species - stable.

Overall assessment of Conservation Status has not changed since 2013.

Overall trend in Conservation Status has not changed since 2013.

12. Natura 2000 (pSCIs, SCIs and SACs) coverage for Annex II species

12.1 Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network (on the biogeographical/marine level including all sites where the species is present)

- a) Unit
- b) Minimum
- c) Maximum
- d) Best single value

12.2 Type of estimate

12.3 Population size inside the network Method used

12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network Direction

12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network Method used

12.6 Additional information

13. Complementary information

13.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

13.2 Trans-boundary assessment

13.3 Other relevant Information

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Distribution Map

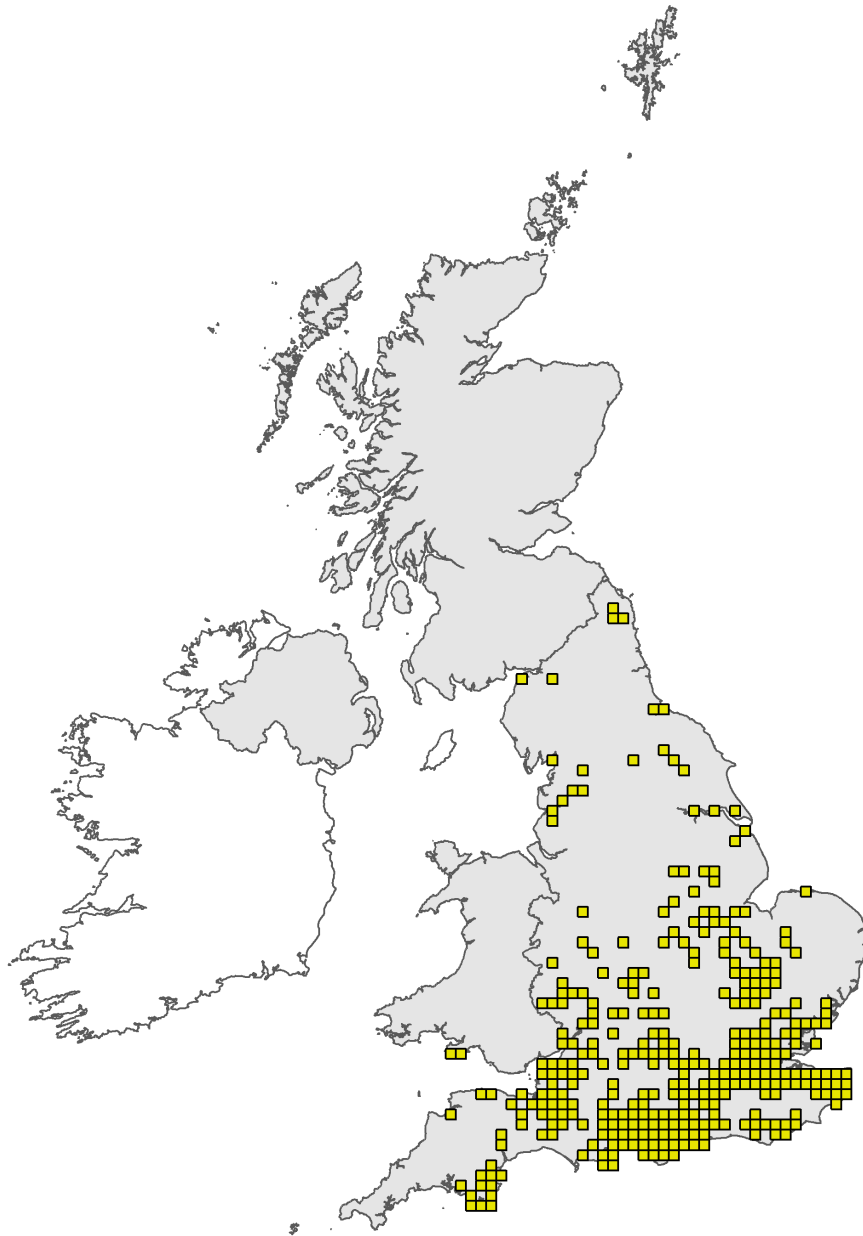


Figure 1: UK distribution map for S1849 - Butcher's broom (*Ruscus aculeatus*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

The 10km grid square distribution map is based on available species records within the current reporting period. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.

Range Map

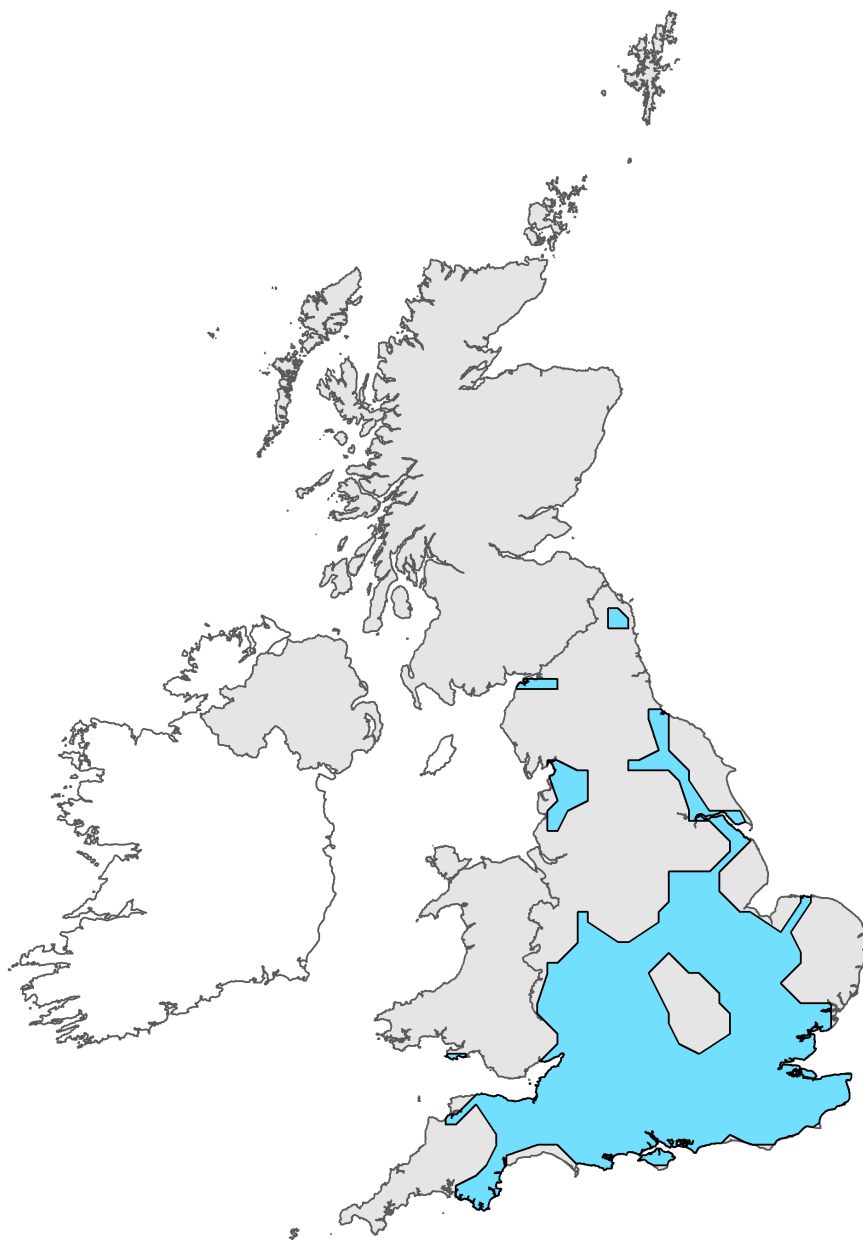


Figure 2: UK range map for S1849 - Butcher's broom (*Ruscus aculeatus*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

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 species was 20km. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.