

**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:

**H3140 - Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic
vegetation of *Chara* spp.**

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	3140 - Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.

2. Maps

2.1 Year or period	1983-2017
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	<p>England</p> <p>Hughes M, Hornby DD, Bennion H, Kernan, M, Hilton J et al. (2004) The development of a GIS-based inventory of standing waters in Great Britain together with a risk-based prioritisation protocol. <i>Water, Air and Soil Pollution: Focus</i> 4:73-84.</p> <p>Williams, P., Biggs, J., Crowe, A., Murphy, J., Nicolet, P., Weatherby, A., Dunbar M., (2010) Ponds Report from 2007. CS Technical Report No. 7/07</p> <p>Carvalho, L. and Moss, B. (1998) Lake SSSIs subject to eutrophication: environmental audit. <i>English Nature Freshwater Series No. 3</i>. Peterborough: English Nature.</p> <p>Environment Agency (2016) Water Framework Directive Surface Water Bodies in England: Classification Status and Objectives - Cycle 2, data from 2013 -2016 Natural England CMSi condition data</p> <p>Mainstone C.,& Burn A. (2011) Relationships between ecological objectives and associated decision-making under the Habitats and Water Framework Directives. Discussion paper, Natural England.</p> <p>Burgess, A, Goldsmith, B and Goodrich, S. (2014) Interpretation of Water Framework Directive Macrophyte Data for CSM Condition Assessment. Report to Natural England</p> <p>Tomlinson, M., Perrow M., Harwood A., Berridge R., (2017) Quantifying fish populations in SSSI lakes phase 2: site-specific reporting of the role of fish in lake management. Report to Natural England.</p> <p>Hall, R. A. (2018) Explanatory notes for the standing water analysis and reporting for Article 17 round 4. Natural England paper.</p> <p>Scotland</p> <p>Previous report</p> <p>SCM Database</p> <p>Wales</p> <p>Baxter E, Stewart N. 2015. Macrophyte Survey of Welsh Lakes for Habitats Directive and Water Framework Directive Monitoring, 2014. NRW Evidence Report No: 52, 78pp, Natural Resources Wales.</p> <p>Bennion H, Johnes P, Ferrier R, Phillips G, Haworth E. 2005. A comparison of diatom phosphorus transfer functions and export coefficient models as tools for reconstructing lake nutrient histories. <i>Freshwater Biology</i>, 50, 1651-1670.</p>

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- Goldsmith B, Salgado, Bennion, H. & Goodrich. 2014a. Lake Ecological Surveys (Wales) 2013. NRW Evidence Report No: 28.19 pp, Natural Resources Wales, Bangor
- Goldsmith B., E.M. Shilland, H. Yang, J. Shilland, J. Salgado & S.D. Turner. 2014b. Condition Assessment of Eight Standing Waters in Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). NRW Evidence Report No: 29,147pp, Natural Resources Wales, Bangor.
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4. Range

4.1 Surface area (in km ²)	61310.25
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	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
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 (km ²) 61310.25 b) Operator c) Unknown No d) Method The FRR is approximately equal to the current range area. The FRR value has been updated to take account of improved information on the habitat range. 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	Improved knowledge/more accurate data The change is mainly due to: Improved knowledge/more accurate data
4.12 Additional information	

5. Area covered by habitat

5.1 Year or period	1983-2017
5.2 Surface area (in km ²)	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Best single value 12.125
5.3 Type of estimate	Minimum
5.4 Surface area Method used	Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data
5.5 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018

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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	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of 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 (km ²)	Approximately equal to (≈)	
	b) Operator	No	
	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	Improved knowledge/more accurate data		
	The change is mainly due to: Improved knowledge/more accurate data		
5.15 Additional information			

6. Structure and functions

6.1 Condition of habitat	a) Area in good condition (km ²)	Minimum 4.57	Maximum
	b) Area in not-good condition (km ²)	Minimum 2.9	Maximum
	c) Area where condition is not known (km ²)	Minimum 4.39	Maximum
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	There is insufficient information to report on the maximum area of habitat in unfavourable (not good) condition. Nevertheless, based on the area that has been assessed, 39% is in unfavourable condition.		

7. Main pressures and threats

7.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

Pressure	Ranking
Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters (A25)	M

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Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters (A26)	M
Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water (F12)	M
Management of fishing stocks and game (G08)	M
Invasive alien species of Union concern (I01)	M
Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern) (I02)	M
Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial) (J01)	H
Modification of hydrological flow (K04)	M
Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change (N01)	M

Threat	Ranking
Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters (A25)	M
Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters (A26)	M
Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water (F12)	M
Management of fishing stocks and game (G08)	M
Invasive alien species of Union concern (I01)	M
Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern) (I02)	M
Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial) (J01)	H
Modification of hydrological flow (K04)	M
Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change (N01)	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		

Reduce diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters from agricultural activities (CA11)

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

Manage water abstraction for public supply and for industrial and commercial use (CF11)

Reduce impact of mixed source pollution (CJ01)

Adopt climate change mitigation measures (CN01)

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 Overall stable

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

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

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and functions - 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 5.545

11.2 Type of estimate

Minimum

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

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

11.6 Additional information

12. Complementary information

12.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

12.2 Other relevant information

Distribution Map

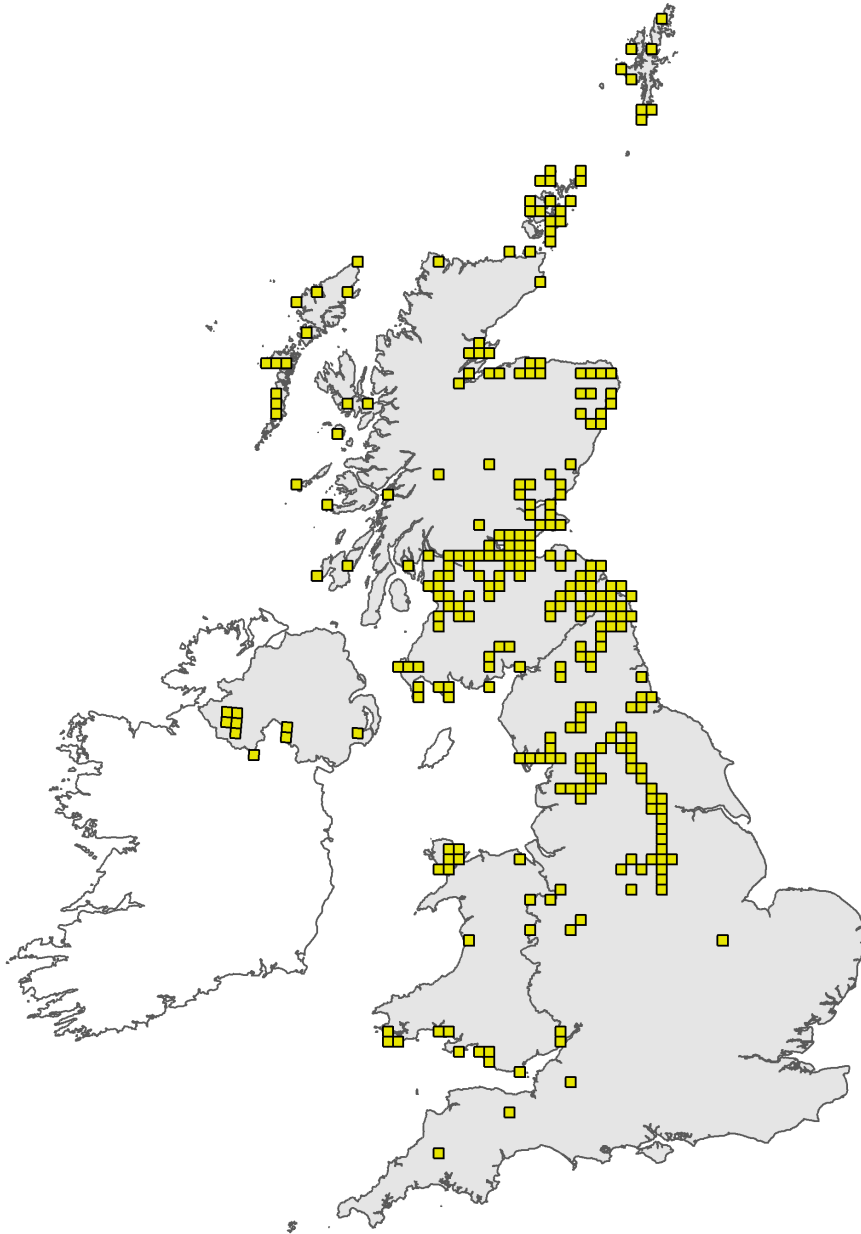


Figure 1: UK distribution map for H3140 - Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp. Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and 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

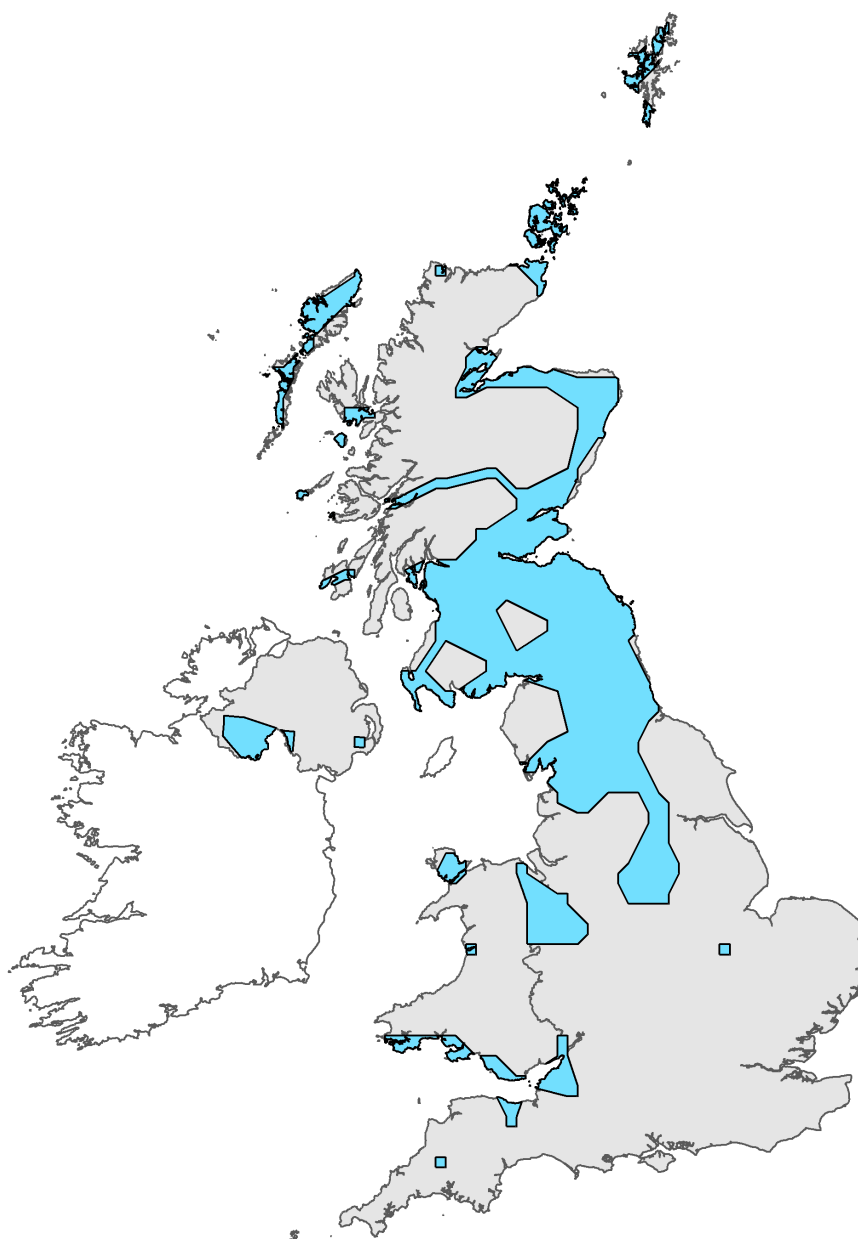


Figure 2: UK range map for H3140 - Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp. Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas 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.