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:

H9190 - Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus robur on sandy plains

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.
### 1. General information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.1 Member State</th>
<th>UK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Habitat code</td>
<td>9190 - Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus robur on sandy plains</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2. Maps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2.1 Year or period</th>
<th>2013-2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Distribution map</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Distribution map Method used</td>
<td>Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Additional maps</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3. Biogeographical and marine regions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the habitat occurs</th>
<th>Atlantic (ATL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Sources of information</td>
<td>England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Natural England's SSSI series review (unpublished)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Range

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4.1 Surface area (in km²)</th>
<th>31651.01</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Short-term trend Period</td>
<td>2007-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3 Short-term trend Direction</td>
<td>Stable (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4 Short-term trend Magnitude</td>
<td>a) Minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5 Short-term trend Method used</td>
<td>Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6 Long-term trend Period</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7 Long-term trend Direction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8 Long-term trend Magnitude</td>
<td>a) Minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.9 Long-term trend Method used</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.10 Favourable reference range</td>
<td>a) Area (km²)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) Operator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d) Method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5. Area covered by habitat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.1 Year or period</th>
<th>2012-2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 17 for Annex I habitat types (Annex D)

5.2 Surface area (in km²)  a) Minimum   b) Maximum   c) Best single value  45

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)
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)  45  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 7.3  Maximum 7.3  b) Area in not-good condition (km²)  Minimum 13.7  Maximum 13.7  c) Area where condition is not known (km²)  Minimum 24  Maximum 24

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
### 7.2 Sources of information

J03: Mixed source air pollution, air-borne pollutants is ranked as a High ranked pressure and threat, due to the nutrient N critical load for the habitat being exceeded across >25% of the habitat area.

### 8. Conservation measures

#### 8.1 Status of measures

| a) Are measures needed? | Yes |
Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 17 for Annex I habitat types (Annex D)

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 Very negative - important deterioration.

The Future prospects for Structure and functions takes into account that at least 25% of the habitat area is expected to be in unfavourable (not good) condition in c.2030 due to nutrient N critical load exceedance, unless measures are taken to reduce N deposition impacts.

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:

8.2 Main purpose of the measures taken

Restore the habitat of the species (related to ‘Habitat for the species’) b) Indicate the status of measures Measures identified and taken

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

- Restore small landscape features on agricultural land (CA02)
- Reinstall forest management and exploitation practices (CB03)
- Adapt/change forest management and exploitation practices (CB05)
- Manage conversion of land for construction and development of infrastructure (CF01)
- Reduce impact of outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities (CF03)
- Reducing the impact of (re-) stocking for fishing and hunting, of artificial feeding and predator control (CG03)
- Reduce impact of mixed source pollution (CJ01)
- Other measures related to natural processes (CL04)
- Adopt climate change mitigation measures (CN01)

8.6 Additional information

10. 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:
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 - stable. If the very negative future trend in Structure and functions is also taken into account, the Overall trend would be deteriorating.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11.1 Surface area of the habitat type inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network (in km² in biogeographical/marine region)</th>
<th>a) Minimum</th>
<th>b) Maximum</th>
<th>c) Best single value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.2 Type of estimate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.3 Surface area of the habitat type inside the network</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method used</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.4 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition within the network</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stable (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.5 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition within the network</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method used</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.6 Additional information</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Complementary information

12.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

12.2 Other relevant information

b) Overall trend in conservation status

No change

The change is mainly due to:

b) Overall trend in conservation status

No change

The change is mainly due to:
Figure 1: UK distribution map for H9190 - Old acidophilous oak woods with *Quercus robur* on sandy plains. 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.
Figure 2: UK range map for H9190 - Old acidophilous oak woods with *Quercus robur* on sandy plains.
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.