

**European Community Directive  
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats  
and of Wild Fauna and Flora  
(92/43/EEC)**

**Second Report by the United Kingdom under  
Article 17  
on the implementation of the Directive  
from January 2001 to December 2006**

**Conservation status assessment for  
Habitat:**

**H1320 - *Spartina* swards (*Spartinion maritimae*)**

The information in this assessment corresponds to the "habitat fact sheet" submitted by the UK to the European Union in February 2008 (second and final submission). Please note that this is a section of the UK's report. For the complete report visit <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/article17>

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## Habitat Name: *Spartina* swards (*Spartinion maritimae*)

### 1. National level

Habitat Code H1320

Member State UK

Biogeographic regions concerned within the MS ATL

1.1 Habitat range map



## 1.2 Habitat distribution map



## 2. Biogeographic level

2.1 Biogeographic region or marine region

ATL

2.2 Published sources and/or websites

AGER, J., HERBERT, R., POPE, C. & RILEY, A. 1999. *Spartina maritima* in the Solent: current status and distribution with special reference to the population at Newtown Harbour, Isle of White. Medina Valley Centre report to English Nature.

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CLAPHAM, A. R., TUTIN, T. G. & WARBURG, E. F. 1962.. *Flora of the British Isles*. Cambridge University Press. Cambridge.

GRAY, A. J., RAYBOULD, A.F. & HORNBY, D. 1999. Solent *Spartina* survey. A survey of the non-*Spartina anglica* species in the Solent. CEH report to English Nature, EN/NERC contract FIN/T98/05

HAINES-YOUNG, RH et al (2000) *Accounting for nature: assessing habitats in the UK countryside*. DETR, Rotherham.

HUBBARD, J. C. E. & STEBBINGS, R. E. 1967. Distribution, dates of origin and acreage of *Spartina townsendii* (s. l.) marshes in Great Britain. *Proceedings of the Botanical Society of the British Isles* 7: 1-7.

JACKSON, DL & McLeod, CR (eds.) 2002. Handbook on the UK status of EC Habitats Directive interest features: provisional data on the UK distribution and extent of Annex I habitats and the UK distribution and population size of Annex II species. JNCC Report, No. 312. Version 2. [www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2447](http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2447)

JOINT NATURE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE 2005. Common Standards Monitoring (CSM). Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough [www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2217](http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2217)

MARCHANT, C. J. & GOODMAN, P.J. 1969.. *Spartina alterniflora* Loisel. *Biological Flora of the British Isles. Journal of Ecology* 57: 291-295.

MASKELL, L., ALEXANDER, M. & BOND, J. 2002. The distribution of *Spartina* spp between Hythe and Calshot. CEH report to English Nature.

MASKELL, L.C. AND RAYBOULD, A.F. 2000. The status of *Spartina alterniflora* in Southampton Water. CEH report to English Nature, EN/NERC contract VK5119/522/UG0914.

MASKELL, L.C. AND RAYBOULD, A.F. 2001. The decline of *Spartina alterniflora* (Poaceae) in the British Isles. *Watsonia* 23: 391-400.

MCLEOD, CR, YEO, M, BROWN, AE, BURN, AJ, HOPKINS, JJ, & WAY, SF (eds.) 2007. The Habitats Directive: selection of Special Areas of Conservation in the UK. 2nd edn. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough [www.jncc.gov.uk/SACselection](http://www.jncc.gov.uk/SACselection)

POSFORD HASKONING 2002. Essex Coast and Estuaries Coastal Habitat Management Plan (CHaMP). Final Report to English Nature.

PRESTON, C. D., PEARMAN, D. A. & DINES, T. D. (eds.) 2002.. *New Atlas of the British & Irish Flora*. Oxford University Press.

RAYBOULD, A. F., GRAY, A. J., LAWRENCE, M. J. & MARSHALL, D. F. 1991. The evolution of *Spartina anglica* C. E. Hubbard (Gramineae): variation and status of the parental species in Britain. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 44: 369-380.

RODWELL J.S. (ed.) 2000.. *British Plant Communities. Volume 5 Maritime communities and vegetation of open habitats*. Cambridge University Press.

STEWART, A., PEARMAN, D.A. & PRESTON, C.D. 1994. *Scarce Plants in Britain*. Peterborough, Joint Nature Conservation Committee.

UKBAP website; [www.ukbap.org.uk](http://www.ukbap.org.uk)

Map data sources

JNCC International Designations Database. Joint Nature Conservation Committee  
New atlas of the British and Irish flora. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

### 2.3 Range of the habitat within the Biogeographic or marine region

2.3.1 Surface area of range in square km	316
2.3.2 Date of range determination	05/2007
2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range	Moderate
2.3.4 Range trend	Decreasing (-)
2.3.5 Range trend magnitude in %	at least 1%
2.3.6 Range trend period	1987-1999
2.3.7 Reasons for reported trend	3 - Direct human influence; 4 - Indirect anthropo or zoogenic influence; 5 - Natural processes;
<b>2.4 Area covered by habitat type within the range in the biogeographical region concerned.</b>	
2.4.1 Surface area of the habitat type (sq km)	less than 1
2.4.2 Date of area estimation	05/2007
2.4.3 Method used for area estimation	1 - Only or mostly based on expert opinion
2.4.4 Quality of data on area	Poor
2.4.5 Area trend	Decreasing (-)
2.4.6 Area trend magnitude in %	Unknown
2.4.7 Area trend period	1987-1999
2.4.8 Reasons for reported trend	3 - Direct human influence; 4 - Indirect anthropo or zoogenic influence; 5 - Natural processes;
2.4.9 Justification of % thresholds for trends (optional)	Not applicable
2.4.10 Main pressures	420 - Discharges; 701 - water pollution; 702 - air pollution; 703 - soil pollution; 730 - Military manouvres; 802 - reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh; 810 - Drainage; 840 - Flooding; 851 - modification of marine currents; 871 - sea defense or coast protection works; 900 - Erosion; 930 - Submersion; 954 - invasion by a species; 971 - competition;
2.4.11 Threats	420 - Discharges; 701 - water pollution; 702 - air pollution; 703 - soil pollution; 730 - Military manouvres; 802 - reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh; 810 - Drainage; 840 - Flooding; 851 - modification of marine currents; 871 - sea defense or coast protection works; 900 - Erosion; 930 - Submersion; 950 - Biocenotic evolution; 954 - invasion by a species; 971 - competition;
<b>Complementary information</b>	
2.5.1 Favourable reference range (sq km)	Unknown
2.5.2 Favourable reference area (sq km)	Unknown
2.5.3 Typical species	<i>Spartina maritima</i> ;
2.5.4 Typical species assessment	Change in 10km square occupancy over last 25yrs
2.5.5 Other relevant information	
<b>2.6 Conclusions (assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period)</b>	
(2.3) Range	(U2-) - Bad and deteriorating

(2.4) Area	(U2-) - Bad and deteriorating
(2.5) Specific structures and functions (incl. typical species)	(U2-) - Bad and deteriorating
Future prospects	(U2-) - Bad and deteriorating
Overall assessment	(U2-) - Bad and deteriorating