

**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:

**H1140 - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by  
seawater at low tide**

**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	1140 - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide

### 2. Maps

2.1 Year or period	1996-2018
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	<b>Marine Atlantic (MATL)</b>
3.2 Sources of information	<p>England</p> <p>ABP Marine Environment Research Ltd. 2011. River Hamble Maintenance Dredge Plan.</p> <p>ABP Research and Consultancy Ltd. 2000. The Marine Environmental Impact Identification and Evaluation TS/ME2. ABP Southampton: Dibden Terminal, Associated British Ports, Southampton: ABP Research and Consultancy Ltd.</p> <p>ADAS Ltd. 2015. Solent Harbours Nitrogen Management Investigation: ADAS Ltd.</p> <p>Ahern, D. and Hellon, J. 2014. Condition monitoring of the saltmarsh feature of The Wash and the North Norfolk Coast SAC, Volume I: The Wash: Ahern Ecology.</p> <p>Andersen, J.H., Manca, E., Agnesi, S., Al-Hamdani, Z., Lillis, H., Mo, G., Populus, J., Reker, J., Tunesi, L. and Vasquez, M., 2018, European Broad-Scale Seabed Habitat Maps Support Implementation of Ecosystem-Based Management. , Open Journal of Ecology, 8, 86-103.</p> <p>Antill, R., Thomas, P. and Linnane, K. 2017. Natural England baseline intertidal and infralittoral rock survey of the Tweed Estuary SAC: APEM Scientific Report for Natural England.</p> <p>APEM. 2013. The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC: Intertidal mud and sand flats assessment.: APEM.</p> <p>Associated British Ports (ABP). 2011. Environmental Statement for Port of Southampton: Berth 201 / 202 Works updated by Further Information Associated British Ports.</p> <p>Atkinson, P. W., Clark, N. A., Clark, J. A., Bell, M. C., Dare, P. J. and Ireland, P. L. 2003. Changes in commercially fished shellfish stocks and shorebird populations in the Wash, England. Biological Conservation, 114, 127-141.</p> <p>Ball, J., Hill, C., Thomas, N., Kenny, A., Collins, K., Mallinson, J., Shearer, M. and Jenson, A. 2000. Solent and South Wight Mapping of Intertidal and Subtidal Marine cSACs: GeoData Institute.</p> <p>Bedford, K. and Rees-Jones, S. 2004. Habitats Directive Stage 3 Review of Consents Technical Report. The Solent European Marine Site. The Impacts of Toxic Compounds in Effluents on Sediments.: Environment Agency.</p> <p>Black &amp; Veatch Ltd. 2011. Baseline Document for Maintenance Dredging in Lymington Harbour.</p> <p>Bray, M. J., Carter, D. J. and Hooke, J. M. 2004. SCOPAC Sediment Transport Study (1991 and 2004): Lyme Regis to Portland Bill.: Portsmouth</p>

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## 4. Range

4.1 Surface area (in km <sup>2</sup> )	3247
4.2 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018
4.3 Short-term trend Direction	Stable (0)
4.4 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum <span style="float: right;">b) Maximum</span>
4.5 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data
4.6 Long-term trend Period	
4.7 Long-term trend Direction	
4.8 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum <span style="float: right;">b) Maximum</span>
4.9 Long-term trend Method used	
4.10 Favourable reference range	a) Area (km <sup>2</sup> ) <span style="float: right;">3247</span> b) Operator c) Unknown <span style="float: right;">No</span> d) Method <span style="float: right;">Range is determined by physical, rather than biological processes, therefore, the current range of mudflats and sandflats is considered the favourable reference range.</span>



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The known range has increased due to improved knowledge and this has led a change in the favourable reference range.

## 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

4.1- The range of mudflats and sandflats is determined by physical and geological processes and was not related to the biological communities or processes supported by them. Therefore, the range was considered equivalent to the surface area of the habitat.

4.3- As this feature is defined by substrate type rather by a specific biological community, its range is determined by physical and geological processes. Mudflats and sandflats are widespread along open coasts, bays and estuaries and encompass parts of the coasts where the sedimentary regime allows. The geographic range of mudflats and sandflats in the UK has remained relatively stable since the last ice age. Although the physical area of some individual sand and mudflats may have changed due to erosion, land claim or other anthropogenic pressures there is no evidence that this has significantly affected the range of the feature. The short-term trend is, therefore, thought to be stable.

4.11-As a result of improved mapping of the habitat, the surface area of range for UK mudflats and sandflats is larger than the figure that was reported in 2013 For further details on the approach taken please refer to JNCC website for 2019 UK Approach Document.

## 5. Area covered by habitat

5.1 Year or period	2006-2018		
5.2 Surface area (in km <sup>2</sup> )	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Best single value 3246.63
5.3 Type of estimate	Best estimate		
5.4 Surface area Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data		
5.5 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018		
5.6 Short-term trend Direction	Uncertain (u)		
5.7 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Confidence interval
5.8 Short-term trend Method used	Insufficient or no data available		
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 <sup>2</sup> )	3247	
	b) Operator		
	c) Unknown	No	
	d) Method	There is no reason to believe that the current area of the feature is below that required to maintain viability, so the feature is considered at its favourable reference area. The known surface area has increased due to improved mapping and this had led to a change in the favourable reference area.	

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## 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

5.1- The data sources used to produce the surface area map ranged from 1996 to 2018.

5.4- The 2013 UK Article 17 area data for Annex I Mudflats and Sandflats was revised at a UK level by the JNCC following updates submitted by the UK Country Agencies. For further details see JNCC website (JNCC 2018a).

5.6-Expert judgement was used to determine the short-term trend direction at the UK-level. The largest proportion of this resource is in England inshore waters. There have been huge improvements to the mapping of this feature in England inshore waters, therefore, a spatial comparison against previous datasets is not possible.

The feature is thought to be stable in Scotland inshore waters and there are some known losses in Wales inshore waters.

5.14-As a result of improved mapping of the habitat, the surface area of UK mudflats and sandflats is larger than the figure reported in 2013.

For further details on the approach taken please refer to the JNCC website for the 2019 UK Approach Document.

## 6. Structure and functions

### 6.1 Condition of habitat

a) Area in good condition (km <sup>2</sup> )	Minimum	1447.10917	Maximum	1447.10917
b) Area in not-good condition (km <sup>2</sup> )	Minimum	1256.1509	Maximum	1256.1509
c) Area where condition is not known (km <sup>2</sup> )	Minimum	543.36379	Maximum	543.36379

### 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

Decreasing (-)

### 6.5 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Method used

Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited 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

6.1-The area of habitat in 'good' (favourable) 'not good (unfavourable) and unknown condition was assessed in each of the four countries and the results were summed. 39% of the habitat is thought to be in unfavourable (not good) condition, 45% of the habitat is thought to be in favourable (good condition) and 17% of the habitat is in unknown condition. The structure and functions conservation status is, therefore, unfavourable-bad, it was also unfavourable-bad in 2013.

6.4-The short-term trend of habitat in good condition was assessed by the four countries and the results were aggregated (see 2019 UK Approach Document). The short-term trend has changed from improving in 2013 to decreasing in 2019 as a result of coastal squeeze in England, where the highest proportion of UK Mudflats and Sandflats are found.

For details on the approach taken to assess the condition of the habitat and the short-term trend in condition please refer to the JNCC website for 2019 UK

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

Approach Document and country-level reporting information.

## 7. Main pressures and threats

### 7.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

Pressure	Ranking
Agricultural activities generating marine pollution (A28)	M
Shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g. canalisation, dredging) (E03)	M
Sports, tourism and leisure activities (F07)	M
Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures) (F08)	H
Marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species (G01)	H
Marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) activities causing physical loss and disturbance of seafloor habitats (G03)	H
Introduction and spread of species (including GMOs) in marine aquaculture (G17)	M
Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern) (I02)	H
Mixed source marine water pollution (marine and coastal) (J02)	H
Sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change (N04)	M
Threat	Ranking
Wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure (D01)	M
Shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g. canalisation, dredging) (E03)	M
Sports, tourism and leisure activities (F07)	M
Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures) (F08)	H
Marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species (G01)	H
Marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) activities causing physical loss and disturbance of seafloor habitats (G03)	M
Introduction and spread of species (including GMOs) in marine aquaculture (G17)	M

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Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern) (I02) H

Mixed source marine water pollution (marine and coastal) (J02) M

Sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change (N04) H

## 7.2 Sources of information

## 7.3 Additional information

There were often more than ten pressures, threats (of high or medium importance), or conservation measures identified, and an aggregation method was used to identify the top ten of each. As a result the top ten lists for the habitat may not correspond with each other. For example, a pressure may be in the reported top ten list, but the corresponding conservation measure might not appear in the top ten list of conservation measures. This does not mean that the measure is not in place, but instead it is in the extended list of measures that did not make the top ten but are detailed in the additional information section.

The following pressures were also identified as medium importance, however, only a maximum of 10 could be reported: F20- Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine pollution (excl. marine macro- and micro-particular pollution), G11-Illegal harvesting, collecting and taking, D05- Development and operation of energy production plants (including bioenergy plants, fossil and nuclear energy plants), F22-Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, Styrofoam),D06-Transmission of electricity and communications (cables),F28-Modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development,F23-Industrial or commercial activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro-particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, Styrofoam).

The following threats were also identified as medium importance, however, a maximum of 10 could be reported: F04-Construction or modification of commercial / industrial infrastructure in existing commercial / industrial areas,F20-Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine pollution (excl. marine macro- and micro-particular pollution),G11-Illegal harvesting, collecting and taking,G19-Other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure,A28-Agricultural activities generating marine pollution,D05-Development and operation of energy production plants (including bioenergy plants, fossil and nuclear energy plants),F06- Development and maintenance of beach areas for tourism and recreation incl. beach nourishment and beach cleaning,F22-Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, Styrofoam),D06-Transmission of electricity and communications (cables),F28-Modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development,N01-Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change,N05- Change of habitat location, size, and / or quality due to climate change,N08- Change of species distribution (natural newcomers) due to climate change,F23-Industrial or commercial activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, Styrofoam). For details on approaches taken in this section please refer to the JNCC website for 2019 UK Approach Document and country-level reporting information.

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## 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/eliminate marine pollution from agricultural activities (CA13)

Adapt/manage renewable energy installation, facilities and operation (CC03)

Reduce impact of transport operation and infrastructure (CE01)

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

Reduce/eliminate marine pollution from industrial, commercial, residential and recreational areas and activities (CF07)

Reduce/eliminate marine contamination with litter (CF08)

Manage changes in hydrological and coastal systems and regimes for construction and development (CF10)

Management of professional/commercial fishing (including shellfish and seaweed harvesting) (CG01)

Management of hunting, recreational fishing and recreational or commercial harvesting or collection of plants (CG02)

Early detection and rapid eradication of invasive alien species of Union concern (CI01)

### 8.6 Additional information

There were often more than ten pressures, threats (of high or medium importance), or conservation measures identified, and an aggregation method was used to identify the top ten of each. As a result the top ten lists for the habitat may not correspond with each other. For example, a pressure may be in the reported top ten list, but the corresponding conservation measure might not appear in the top ten list of conservation measures. This does not mean that the measure is not in place, but instead it is in the extended list of measures that did not make the top ten but are detailed in the additional information section.

8.5- The following conservation measures were also identified, however, a maximum of 10 could be listed: CN02- Implement climate change adaptation measures, CG09- Other measures to reduce impacts from marine aquaculture infrastructures and operation, CG08- Reduce/eliminate marine pollution from marine aquaculture, CF01- Manage conversion of land for construction and development of infrastructure, CJ01- Reduce impact of mixed source pollution, CF02- Habitat restoration of areas impacted by residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure, operations and activities, CF12- Other measures related to residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructures, operations and activities, CG15- Other measures related to exploitation of species, CG04- Control/eradication of illegal killing, fishing and harvesting, CC06- Reduce impact of service corridors and networks.

For further details on methods used please see JNCC website for 2019 UK Approach Document and country-level reporting information.

## 9. Future prospects

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

## 9.1 Future prospects of parameters

a) Range	Good
b) Area	Bad
c) Structure and functions	Bad

## 9.2 Additional information

Future trends for each parameter were selected by the four countries and then aggregated to give a future trend for the UK (see 2019 UK Approach Document). Table 32 in the EU Guidelines was used to bring the future trend and conservation status of each parameter together to conclude on future prospects.

9.1a) Future prospects are good because the future trend of range is overall stable and the conclusion for range is Favourable. Future prospects were also good in 2013.

9.1b) Future prospects are bad because the future trend of area is very negative and the conclusion for area is Unknown. Future prospects were unknown in 2013.

9.1c) Future prospects are bad because the future trend is very negative and the conclusion for the parameter is Unfavourable-bad. Future prospects were also bad in 2013.

For further details on the approach taken to identify future prospects please see JNCC website for 2019 UK Approach Document and country-level reporting information.

## 10. Conclusions

### 10.1. Range

Favourable (FV)

### 10.2. Area

Unknown (XX)

### 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

Unknown (x)

### 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

Improved knowledge/more accurate data

Use of different method

The change is mainly due to: Improved knowledge/more accurate data

### 10.8 Additional information

10.1-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.

10.2-Conclusion on Area covered by habitat reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Area is uncertain (ii) the current area is approximately equal to the Favourable Reference Area.

10.3-Conclusion on Structure and functions reached because habitat condition data indicates that more than 25% of the habitat is in unfavourable (not good) condition. 39% of the habitat is thought to be unfavourable (not good) condition, 45% of the habitat is thought to be in favourable (good) condition and 17% of the habitat is in unknown condition.

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10.4-Conclusion on Future prospects reached because: (i) the Future prospects for Range are good; (ii) the Future prospects for Area covered by habitat are bad; and (iii) the Future prospects for Structure and functions are bad.

10.5-Overall assessment of Conservation Status is Unfavourable-bad because two of the conclusions are Unfavourable-bad.

10.6-Overall trend in Conservation Status is based on the combination of the short-term trends for Range - stable, Area covered by habitat - uncertain, and Structure and functions - decreasing.

10.7-The Overall Trend in Conservation Status has changed between 2013 (improving) and 2019 (unknown). This is a methodological change because of the removal of the Future Prospects trend from the 2019 method used to assess Overall Trend and also because the short-term trend for structures and functions has changed from improving to decreasing. 2013: Range = stable, Area = unknown, S&F= improving, FP = unknown. 2019: Range=stable, Area = uncertain, S&F = decreasing, [FP not included].

For detailed methods see JNCC website for 2019 UK Approach Document and country-level reporting 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 km<sup>2</sup> in biogeographical/marine region)

- a) Minimum
- b) Maximum
- c) Best single value 2038.53459

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

Decreasing (-)

11.5 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition within network Method used

Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data

11.6 Additional information

11.3-The mudflats and sandflats surface area map was intersected with all Natura 2000 sites that contain qualifying marine habitats or species (JNCC, 2018b). The cut-off used for SAC designations was Tranche 56 in November 2017. For further details on the approaches taken in this section please see JNCC website for the 2019 UK Approach Document and country-level reporting information.

## 12. Complementary information

12.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

12.2 Other relevant information

# Distribution Map

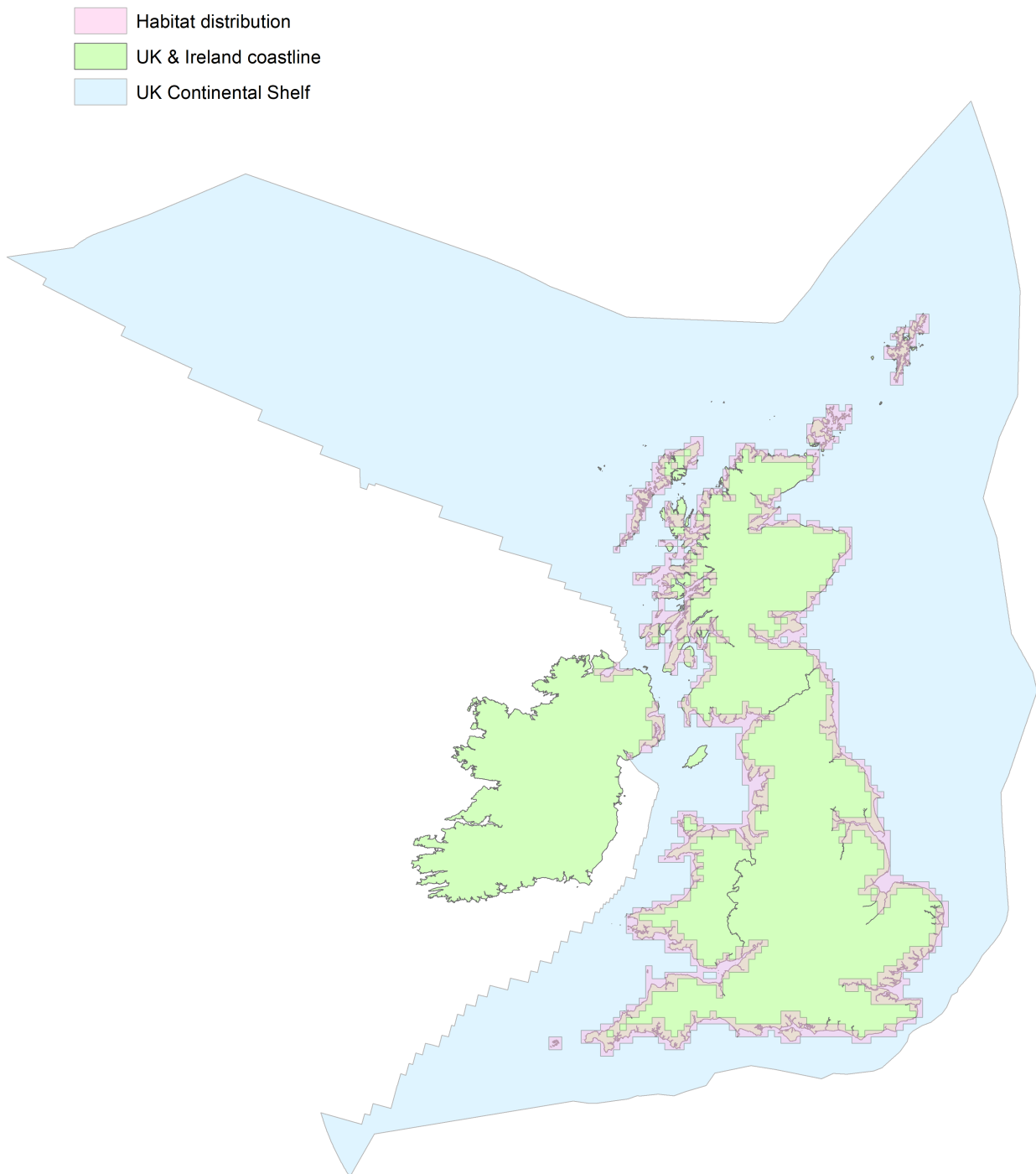


Figure 1: UK distribution map for H1140 - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide.

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

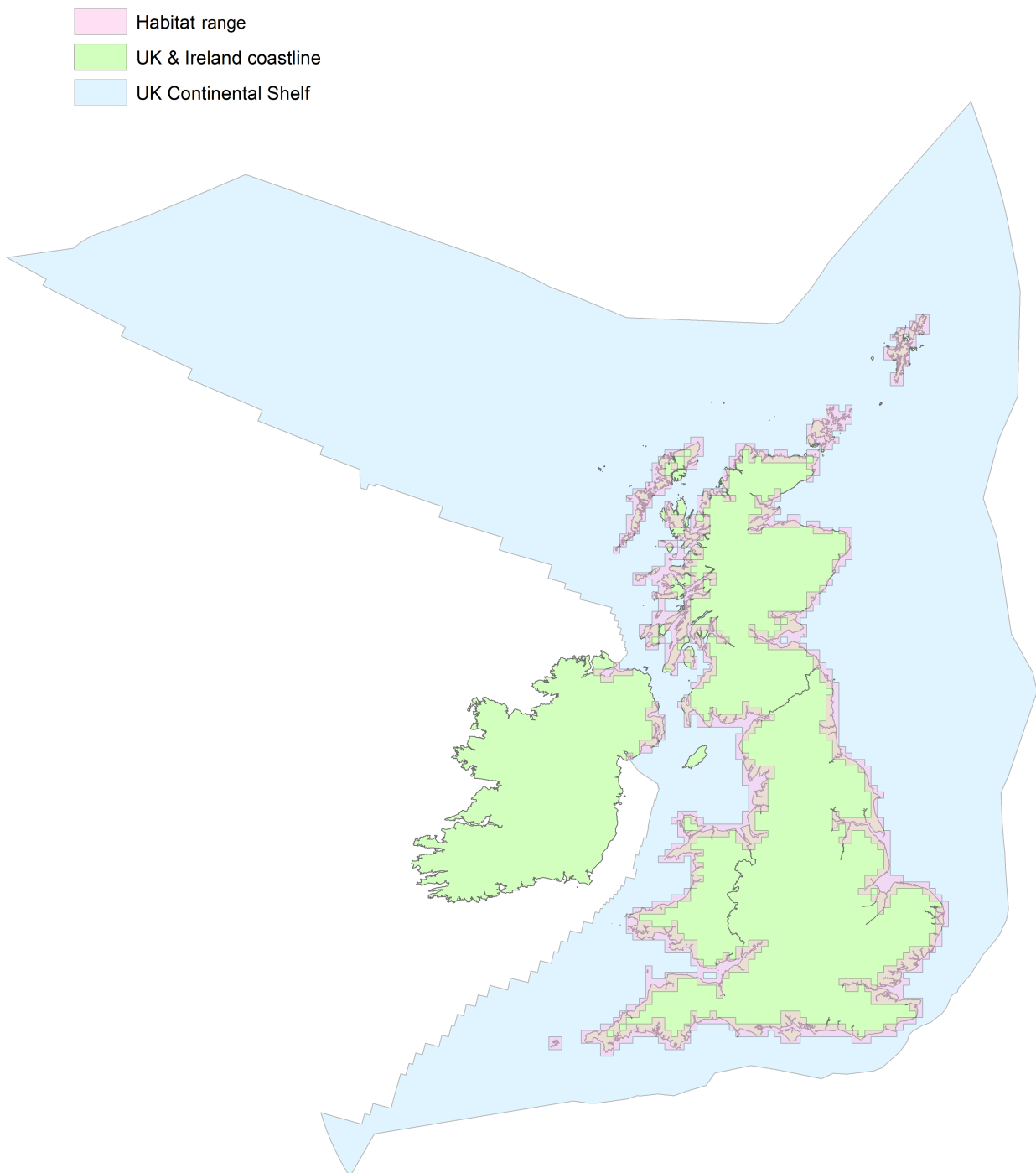


Figure 2: UK range map for H1140 - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide.

The range of mudflats and sandflats is determined by physical and geological processes and was not related to the biological communities or processes supported by them. Therefore, the range was considered equivalent to the surface area of the habitat.

# Explanatory Notes

## Habitat code: 1140

Field label	Note
2.1 Year or period	The data sources used to produce this map ranged from 1996 to 2018
2.3 Distribution map; Method used	The surface area map was gridded to create the distribution map. The 2013 UK Article 17 area data for Annex I Mudflats and sandflats was revised at a UK level by the JNCC following updates submitted by the UK Country Agencies. For further details see JNCC website (JNCC 2018a).

## Habitat code: 1140 Region code: MATL

Field label	Note
4.1 Surface area	The range of mudflats and sandflats is determined by physical and geological processes and was not related to the biological communities or processes supported by them. Therefore, the range was considered equivalent to the surface area of the habitat.
4.3 Short term trend; Direction	As this feature is defined by substrate type rather by a specific biological community, its range is determined by physical and geological processes. Mudflats and sandflats are widespread along open coasts, bays and estuaries and encompass parts of the coasts where the sedimentary regime allows. The geographic range of mudflats and sandflats in the UK has remained relatively stable since the last ice age. Although the physical area of some individual sand and mudflats may have changed due to erosion, land claim or other anthropogenic pressures there is no evidence that this has significantly affected the range of the feature. The short-term trend is, therefore, thought to be stable.
4.5 Short term trend; Method used	See 4.3
4.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	As a result of improved mapping of the habitat, the surface area of range for UK mudflats and sandflats is larger than the figure that was reported in 2013.
5.1 Year or period	The data sources used to produce the surface area map ranged from 1996 to 2018.
5.4 Surface area; Method used	The 2013 UK Article 17 area data for Annex I Mudflats and Sandflats was revised at a UK level by the JNCC following updates submitted by the UK Country Agencies. For further details see JNCC website (JNCC 2018a).
5.6 Short term trend; Direction	Expert judgement was used to determine the short-term trend direction at the UK-level. The largest proportion of this resource is in England inshore waters. There have been huge improvements to the mapping of this feature in England inshore waters, therefore, a spatial comparison against previous datasets is not possible. The feature is thought to be stable in Scotland inshore waters and there are some known losses in Wales inshore waters.
5.8 Short term trend; Method used	See 5.6
5.14 Change and reason for change in surface area	As a result of improved mapping of the habitat, the surface area of UK mudflats and sandflats is larger than the figure reported in 2013.
6.1 Condition of habitat	The area of habitat in 'good' (favourable) 'not good (unfavourable) and unknown condition was assessed in each of the four countries and the results were summed. 39% of the habitat is thought to be in unfavourable (not good) condition, 45% of the habitat is thought to be in favourable (good condition) and 17% of the habitat is in unknown condition. The structure and functions conservation status is, therefore, unfavourable-bad, it was also unfavourable-bad in 2013.

6.4 Short term trend of habitat area in good condition; Direction	The short-term trend of habitat in good condition was assessed by the four countries and the results were aggregated (see 2019 UK Approach Document). The short-term trend has changed from improving in 2013 to decreasing in 2019 as a result of coastal squeeze in England, where the highest proportion of UK Mudflats and Sandflats are found.
9.1 Future prospects of parameters	Future trends for each parameter were selected by the four countries and then aggregated to give a future trend for the UK (see 2019 UK Approach Document). Table 32 in the EU Guidelines was used to bring the future trend and conservation status of each parameter together to conclude on future prospects.
9.1a Future prospects of parameters - Range	Future prospects are good because the future trend of range is overall stable and the conclusion for range is Favourable. Future prospects were also good in 2013.
9.1b Future prospects of parameters - Area	Future prospects are bad because the future trend of area is very negative and the conclusion for area is Unknown. Future prospects were unknown in 2013.
9.1c Future prospects of parameters - Structure and functions	Future prospects are bad because the future trend is very negative and the conclusion for the parameter is Unfavourable-bad. Future prospects were also bad in 2013.
11.3 Surface area of the habitat type inside the network; Method used	The mudflats and sandflats surface area map was intersected with all Natura 2000 sites that contain qualifying marine habitats or species (JNCC, 2018b). The cut-off used for SAC designations was Tranche 56 in November 2017.