Environment Act Habitat Target – Evidence Report 2025

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Foreword

This report explains the methodology for arriving at an accurate metric for reporting towards the Environment Act Habitat Target and sets out a quantitative metric to report progress based on analysis conducted in March 2025.

The statutory Environment Act habitat target is to restore or create more than 500,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites by 31 December 2042. The Government has concluded a rapid review of the existing Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP23) which sets out interim targets towards the Environment Act targets, and a revised EIP will be published later this year.

The findings of this evidence report will be used to inform reporting of progress towards the Environment Act Habitat Target.

Executive summary

The statutory Environment Act habitat target is to restore or create more than 500,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites by 31 December 2042.

This report explains the methodology for developing an accurate metric for reporting against the target and sets out a quantitative metric to report progress based on analysis conducted in March 2025.

The metric is not fully comprehensive, as not all data on potentially eligible actions towards the habitat target have been included in analysis. The metric only includes data from some Defra Group delivery mechanisms – these have been prioritised for inclusion in analysis due to their relative expected contributions to the target, and the compatibility of associated data with that required in the data model for reporting.

Data included in the analysis are provided from the Environment Agency, the Defra Farming and Countryside Programme, the Forestry Commission, Forestry England, and the Nature for Climate Peatland Grant Scheme.

Additional delivery will have been achieved through further schemes and partners, including, but not limited to, the Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme, the Nature Returns Programme, the Species Survival Fund, National Lottery Heritage Fund nature recovery projects, the Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP), and delivery by partners such as environmental Non-Governmental Organisations using other public and private finance mechanisms.

Future reporting will work to capture delivery from these wider partners and mechanisms where there is suitable spatial data to allow robust reporting.

The analysis set out in this report provides a metric representing the minimum area where action has been undertaken, as Defra and Natural England have taken a precautionary approach of using spatial data to reduce the risk of over-reporting. It is likely that this figure will be revised upwards in future years as more data becomes available and/or the resolution of existing data improves such that we are confident of its inclusion in the metric.

The metric produced following analysis in March 2025 indicates that since 30 January 2023 there are 38,877 hectares where action is known to have been/is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites.

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Introduction

The long-term legally binding Environment Act habitat target set out in *The Environmental Targets (Biodiversity) (England) Regulations 2023*[1] is:

To restore or create more than 500,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites by 31 December 2042.

The Regulations set out that Defra must obtain and record action to create/restore wildlife-rich habitat that has been taken on or after the day the regulations came into force (30th January 2023).

This report sets out analysis undertaken in March 2025 to produce a metric to inform reporting of progress towards the legally binding Environment Act habitat target.

Target definitions

The publication 'Environment Act Habitat Target – Definitions and Descriptions TIN219'[2] sets out definitions for wildlife-rich habitat and creation and restoration.

The actions included as restoration or creation are those that establish wildlife-rich habitat on land or water where such habitat is currently absent. Actions should result in an increased extent of wildlife-rich habitat, not improved condition of existing wildlife-rich habitat. Restoration and creation are not reported separately for this target.

Habitat restoration and creation action is differentiated from improvements to on-site management in that it leads to an increase in the extent of wildlife-rich habitat. To be considered restoration or creation, action should not occur on wildlife-rich habitat that currently meets any of the habitat definitions listed in TIN219. Any exceptions are also listed in TIN219.

An action is defined as the intervention(s) needed to create or restore habitat that would reasonably be expected to lead to wildlife-rich habitat[3]. In many cases a suite of interventions will be required to be confident that wildlife-rich habitat will be established as a result – in these cases, the area only contributes towards the target where all required action is underway.

There may be cases where the intervention(s) have a footprint that is different in size or location to that of the wildlife-rich habitat expected to be established. As the habitat target seeks to record the size and location of the area intended to become wildlife-rich habitat

[1] The Environmental Targets (Biodiversity) (England) Regulations 2023 (legislation.gov.uk)
[2] Environment Act Habitat Target – Definitions and Descriptions - TIN219
[3] Environment Act Habitat Target - Reporting Data Model and Standard - TIN223

following interventions, the reported area will be the area of influence expected from the interventions, not the intervention area itself.

Only actions taken outside of protected sites will count towards this target. The *Environmental Targets (Biodiversity) (England) Regulations 2023* set out that a "protected site" for the purpose of this target means a site which is a European site (Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas), a Site of Special Scientific Interest, or a marine conservation zone.

The target also does not include action for the purpose of replacing habitat that has been lost on or after the day the target came into force (30th January 2023). Where habitat created or restored includes direct replacement habitat, only excess habitat should count towards the target.

Duration of target

The target came into force on 30th January 2023 with a deadline of 31st December 2042, so action that has been or is being initiated at any time between 30th January 2023 to 31st December 2042 will be counted.

If a site does not contain wildlife-rich habitat at the time the target came into force, then the site is eligible for counting towards the target when action is taken on that site after 30th January 2023.

Data collection

Type of data recorded

The publication 'Environment Act Habitat Target – Reporting Data Model and Standard TIN223[4] sets out the data that is required for reporting progress towards the habitat target.

Available data for 2025 analysis

To prioritise data collection and processing to produce the metric within this report, delivery mechanisms were assessed based on:

a. The relative expected contributions to the target, and
b. The suitability of existing data to meet the data model for reporting.

[4] Environment Act Habitat Target - Reporting Data Model and Standard - TIN223

Four delivery areas were identified that had existing data collection/management processes and were expected to make a relatively large contribution to the habitat target and so were prioritised for analysis to develop the reporting methodology. These comprised data on:

- woodland creation compiled by Forestry Commission (FC) and restoration of plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) within the Nations Forests from Forestry England (FE),
- habitat creation and restoration reported by the Environment Agency (EA),
- delivery through the Farming and Countryside Programme (FCP), and
- the Nature for Climate Peatland Grant Scheme (NCPGS).

Additional delivery will have been achieved through schemes, mechanisms and partners not listed above. For example, this includes delivery by other public funding streams such as the Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme, delivery by water companies through the Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP), and delivery by partners such as environmental Non-Governmental Organisations using other public and private finance mechanisms. See ‘Data not included in analysis’ for further detail.

Future reporting will work to capture delivery from these wider partners and mechanisms where this is possible and there is suitable spatial data to allow robust reporting.

Methodology

Defra and Natural England have developed a methodology for how data will be handled when reporting towards the habitat target. This includes how the data will be received and then, if necessary, transformed to ensure consistency with the desired data model, followed by spatial analysis to remove any double counting, and finally a quality assurance process. The receipt, transformation, and analysis of data has been led by Natural England. The quality assurance process was completed by Natural England and Defra.

This methodology is set out below and will be continually reviewed and subject to change where appropriate in future years to accommodate and adapt to new data sources.

Receiving the data

Before data is received for analysis, data providers must remove any personal data that is collected which is not required to fulfil the habitat target data model and standard.

Data providers must also undertake their own quality assurance to ensure that the data that is supplied is consistent with reporting requirements.

Transparency and traceability are essential and to ensure this, data providers are required to provide comprehensive metadata that allows records within the consolidated dataset to be traced back to its source.

Data also needs to be supported by an appropriate license, setting out the terms of data use. Where possible, the data will be provided under Open Government License (OGL). Some data providers are moving towards this in the longer term.

Provision of data for reporting is dependent on resourcing associated with the data providers.

Transforming the data

Upon receipt, data are screened against a series of statements and questions (Annex 1) to assess suitability and quality. If the data does not align with the data model it is transformed to align with the data model as much as is possible.

Currently, not all data contributing to the target will be supplied as spatially explicit polygons, which cannot be fully rectified in the transformation process. With some delivery mechanisms allowing ‘stacking’ of actions, this may sometimes create a challenge of discriminating between potential duplicate submissions, leading to a risk of double counting.

Some of the data can be joined with existing spatial frameworks where these are available, for example through common features such as Field Parcel IDs. This is the case with the FCP data which is received as tabular data. These data can then be joined to the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) Land Parcels dataset using field parcel IDs which are common to both datasets. The polygon dataset then takes on the information in the FCP dataset, creating a polygon layer which contains the required information. However, as the RPA Land Parcel dataset changes over time, the equivalent field parcel dataset will be needed, reflecting the time that the action was initiated. To ensure accurate joining for this years’ reporting, the same 2024 RPA Land Parcel dataset was used as that used by the FCP.

Where data is not supplied in a spatially explicit form and cannot be joined to an existing land parcel, a circular buffer of appropriate proportion can be drawn around the point of action. This creates a polygon that has the correct area of the creation or restoration action, which is reported by the data provider, but the spatial configuration is not accurate. FCP data on arable field margins are an exception as there is insufficient locational and spatial data to use the approach above.

In the case of linear features such as rivers or hedgerows, a circle does not correctly show the area of habitat. This creates problems when trying to discern overlaps between datasets, as the data includes spatial location inaccuracies. For datasets where points are buffered, or tabular data joined to an existing polygon layer, linear habitats have not been treated differently. This is due to the lack of information available in the original dataset or

polygon spatial framework. In the case of point buffering, two or more points are needed to create a line and only one point is included to represent the linear habitat. In the spatial framework whole field parcels are identified, as opposed to sub-parcel features such as hedgerows. Linear features are joined to a whole parcel and a proportion of the parcel is used to represent the amount of area the linear habitat covers. It is for these reasons that accurate polygon data is requested in the habitat target data model and standard.

Data is then filtered against a protected sites layer to remove any delivery areas within protected sites, ensuring data accurately represents the scope of the target. For the duration of the target, data will be compared to the protected sites present at the start of the target (30 January 2023).

Spatial analysis of the data

Data is spatially analysed to identify where double counting may have taken place. Double counting could occur when polygons overlap. Overlaps may happen within a single year if multiple delivery partners report the same area, or across years if the same area is reported in future years. To provide an accurate metric for the target, overlaps must be identified and the land area reported only once.

To remove overlaps, data from different data providers must be merged into one spatial layer which can be used for identifying overlaps. During this process, data are overlayed onto each other. As the spatial data are not completely accurate, there may be instances where an overlap in the data does not reflect an overlap on the same piece of land. For example, where the actions reported have taken place on different parts of a polygon and the overlap is due to limitations in the resolution of the spatial data.

A ruleset has been developed and applied to areas where the data overlap. A broad habitat type is assigned to each polygon based on the habitat given. Details of this can be found in Annex 2. Where the overlap of parent polygons has the same broad habitat type, the overlap will be assigned that broad habitat type. Where the broad habitat types of parent polygons are different, the overlap will be reported as a wildlife-rich mosaic habitat.

The single merged layer is then compared against a marine outer boundary, to ensure that only data within 1 nautical mile outside of the baseline is included to align with the scope of the target. For current analysis, Mean Low Water has been used as the marine outer boundary as no marine data has yet been included in analysis. For future analysis, an outer boundary based on the UK Hydrological Office polygon of English territorial waters from the ambulatory baseline buffered to 1 nautical mile will be applied; this is currently in development.

Arable field margins are not included in the single merged layer as there is insufficient spatial or location data to do so. Data on creation of arable field margins is only received from FCP which eliminates the chance of overlaps with data from other providers. The fact that they are on arable land also eliminates the chance of them occurring in mosaics with other habitat types.

Metric generation

From the single merged layer, summary statistics based on the habitat amount attribution have been generated. The metric is based on the figures reported by data providers, accounting for removal of overlaps through the above method, rather than calculation of the area within the polygons provided. This will avoid potential errors generated through inaccurate drawing of spatial polygons. The area of arable field margins created is added to this figure; due to the non-spatial and non-locational nature of these data they cannot be used in the breakdown of delivery across Local Nature Recovery Strategy areas or in the assessment of patch size.

Quality assurance of the metric

The process, methodology and final metric have been subject to a rigorous quality assurance process, including two stages of internal peer review and sign off from the principal statisticians in Natural England and Defra.

Data included in analysis

Data from four delivery areas were included in the analysis for this report in March 2025.

Environment Agency

Data have been included from the EA Conservation Projects Database (CPD) on habitat creation and restoration for the 2023-2024 financial year.

This data represents projects to restore or create wildlife-rich habitat, most of which are undertaken by the EA in partnership with other organisations.

The data provided broadly aligns well with the mandatory fields required by the habitat target data model. The allowable values when data is entered into the CPD are being reviewed to more completely align with the allowable values of the habitat target data model, to improve confidence that the data aligns with the definitions of creation and restoration for the purpose of this target.

The EA dataset comprises point spatial data representing the centroid of where action has been taken, which has been transformed into polygon data by creating a circular buffer, meaning there is limited confidence in the precise spatial boundaries of the location of delivery.

Farming and Countryside Programme

Data have been included from FCP for the 2023 and 2024 calendar years. These data represent agreements initiated in 2023 and 2024 under Countryside Stewardship with

options that count towards the target. The options that count towards the target at the time of analysis are set out in Table 1. This list of options will be regularly reviewed, including where new options become available.

Table 1 - Options that count towards the target at the time of analysis

Code	Offer name
AB8	Flower-rich margins and plots
BE5	Creation of traditional orchards
BN7	Hedgerow gapping-up
BN11	Planting new hedges
CT2	Creation of coastal sand dunes and vegetated shingle on arable land and improved grassland
CT4	Creation of intertidal and saline habitat on arable land
CT5	Creation of intertidal and saline habitat by non-intervention
CT7	Creation of intertidal and saline habitat on intensive grassland
GS7	Restoration towards species rich grassland
GS8	Creation of species rich grassland
LH2	Restoration of forestry and woodland to lowland heathland
LH3	Creation of heathland from arable or improved grassland
UP5	Moorland re-wetting This option only counts when deployed with WN1 on peat WN1: Grip blocking drainage channels – this maintains and restores wetter conditions across habitats and vegetation mosaics. Restored and re-wetted habitats support target vegetation and species

Code	Offer name
	Or with FM2: major preparatory work for priority habitats (creation and restoration) and priority species
WD6	Creation of lowland wood pasture
WD8	Creation of successional areas and scrub
WD12	Creation of upland wood pasture
WN5	Pond Management (less than 100 square metres)
WN6	Pond management (more than 100 square metres)
WN7	Restoration of large water bodies
WT9	Creation of Fen
WT7	Creation of reedbed

The FCP data combines agreement data and RPA Land Parcels data to provide parcel level data of where options have been undertaken. When the action only occupies a proportion of a polygon, the exact location of the action within the polygon cannot be known.

For each parcel, the amount of the option is summed. For parcels in which more than one qualifying option is delivered, for instance a grassland creation with a field boundary restoration around it, the total amount contributing to the target is capped at the total extent of the parcel.

The parcel level data is then provided for collation with other data in this analysis. The FCP dataset is not spatial, so requires transformation as described above.

The contribution of arable field margins to the habitat target is capped at 40,000 hectares above the baseline amount present in 2022. This is because arable field margins are ephemeral, moveable, and relatively easy to deliver, and the target requires a range of wildlife-rich habitats to be created or restored. As such the contribution from arable field margins is not mapped in spatial analysis, but delivery statistics above the 2022 baseline amount and up to the agreed cap are added to the figure derived through spatial analysis.

Forestry Commission

Data compiled by the Forestry Commission (FC) generally align well with the mandatory data fields of the habitat target data model and standard.

Data from the FC on wildlife-rich woodland creation for the 2023-2024 financial year has been included in the metric. This includes spatial data supplied for the following schemes:

- England Woodland Creation Scheme (Forestry Commission).
- Tree planting by Forestry England
- Countryside Stewardship[5]
- Community Forests
- The Northern Forest (Grow Back Greener component only)
- The National Forest Company
- Woodland Creation Partnerships (Northumberland only)

The Forestry Commission used spatial data for all available schemes and filtered by 'woodland' (as opposed to small woods <0.5ha or trees outside woodland), and then further filtered by proportion of native species or where established by natural regeneration, to identify the agreements creating 'wildlife-rich' woodland. Data on location and composition are being compiled for a small number of schemes (notably the Nature for Climate component of the Northern Forest and other Woodland Creation Partnerships) and are not included in the figures for this reporting. All data included in this analysis are provided as interim figures subject to further validation through the National Forest Inventory. This may result in some further refinement, for example, where small woods are established next to existing woodlands.

Forestry England

Forestry England has supplied data for restoration of ancient semi-natural woodland (also wildlife-rich) using compartment survey data for the nation's forests showing changes in tree composition on Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS).

Sites on the Forestry England Estate undergoing PAWS restoration will contribute to the habitat target when sites:

a. Have in place spatially explicit plans for restoration management (within forest plans) and are informed by the wider Forestry England policy to restore all PAWS sites to semi-natural ancient woodland.

[5] The woodland Countryside Stewardship option that counts towards the target at the time of analysis is TE4a: Supply and plant tree (native woodland)

b. move from a non-wildlife-rich semi-natural score of 4 (>80% conifer) or 3 (>50% conifer) up at least one score towards 1 (>80% native). This demonstrates progress towards restoration of wildlife-rich habitat.

It is possible that a site will subsequently move back to a higher score as tree species regenerate and will then require further intervention. These areas will be reviewed in future years and may be removed from the reporting figures if they return to a state dominated by non-native species. A median score will give a sense of whether this is happening overall, but spatial site-specific data to establish a baseline at the parcel level will allow removal of areas that regress.

Nature for Climate Peat Grant Scheme (NCPGS)

The Nature for Climate Peat Grant Scheme (NCPGS) provides funding to restore peatlands in the uplands and lowlands of England. The dataset describes the peatland restoration sites that began restoration works between 01/02/2023 - 31/03/2024. Projects receiving NCPGS funding are required to submit a polygon showing their area under restoration, of where restoration works have taken place and will be influenced as a result.

NCPGS data was filtered to test if areas met the starting stage requirements, in accordance with the peat restoration roadmap. Only sites with a starting stage of D, 1, or 2 will count towards the habitat target. Table 2 shows the roadmap stages.

Table 2 - Roadmap stages of activity for peat restoration mapped to the habitat target

Stage of restoration activity in the peat restoration roadmap	Habitat target interpretation
D – Degraded: No action has previously been undertaken to restore	Degraded
1 – Removal of onsite stressors: Major interventions to arrest decline are currently being undertaken	Degraded
2 – Stabilisation: Major interventions to stabilise and promote peat formation are currently being undertaken	Degraded
3 – Recovery: Work is ongoing to support continued recovery of the peatland ecosystem	Recovering
4 – Self-sustaining peatland ecosystem: Major interventions are complete; management is focused on peatland habitat function and avoiding further pressures	Wildlife-rich habitat

Data not included in analysis

The metric developed following analysis in March 2025 is not fully comprehensive, as not all data on potentially eligible actions towards the habitat target have been included in analysis. This is because:

a. The reporting system for the habitat target is in development. An initial focus has been given to Defra Group mechanisms expected to deliver a relatively large amount of the target. As such, not all potential delivery mechanisms and partners have been approached for data in this round of analysis, but data from external delivery partners will be included in future rounds of reporting where possible.

b. Not all delivery mechanisms currently collect the required data in suitable alignment with the habitat target reporting data model and standard. Work is underway by some delivery mechanisms to improve the spatial resolution of data for future analysis. However, some programmes originated before the habitat target came into effect but have undertaken some creation and or restoration work since January 2023 that could count towards the target. These programmes started data collection before the data needs for reporting towards the target were known. Where delivery mechanisms have no suitable data, we will not be able to include the contributions of these programmes in the metric.

c. Data may be available but undergoing quality assurance to ensure it is suitable for reporting.

The delivery mechanisms that have been included in this analysis have expected individual contributions to the statutory habitat target that range from medium/low (5% < x ≤ 15%) to high (> 35%).

Work is already underway to expand data included in analysis in 2026 to the following list of mechanisms where possible, and further mechanisms may also be available subject to data availability and suitability, for example Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)[6].

Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL)

The Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme offers funding to farmers and land managers in National Landscapes, National Parks and the Broads. The programme funds projects that support nature recovery, mitigate the impacts of climate change, and provide opportunities for people to discover and enjoy the landscape and its cultural heritage.

[6] The approach for counting BNG actions towards the habitat target is being developed. BNG actions can be mapped where data is available, but the contribution of BNG to the habitat target will be reported separately as only the 10% gain from BNG can count towards the habitat target.

Defra and Natural England are working closely with the Protected Landscapes organisations as the delivery bodies of the programme to understand how spatial data on FiPL delivery could be collected and included in future reporting. Some Protected Landscapes do have spatial data (both points and polygons), but providing this retrospectively may be resource intensive and require more time to accurately collate for different Protected Landscapes.

FiPL delivery data from 2023 and 2024 is expected to be available for inclusion in the analysis for 2026 habitat target reporting where possible.

Nature Returns

Natural England is leading the Nature Returns Programme in partnership with the Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew at Wakehurst and six Local Partnership Projects.

The programme has six projects that were established to pilot nature-based solutions for climate change through the creation of habitats, with an emphasis on filling evidence gaps.

Nature Returns delivery data is expected to be available for inclusion in the analysis for 2026 habitat target reporting where possible.

Species Survival Fund

The Species Survival Fund (SSF) is funded by Defra and administrated by The National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF). The SSF was launched to help halt and reverse the decline in species abundance by preserving vital habitats.

SSF projects were given funding for habitat creation and restoration to run for 2 years and must be completed by February 2026.

SSF delivery data is expected to be available for inclusion in the analysis for 2026 habitat target reporting.

ReMeMaRe

Restoring Meadow, Marsh and Reef (ReMeMaRe) is a partner led initiative, coordinated by the Environment Agency, which has an ambitious mission to increase restoration of three priority estuarine and coastal habitats, seagrass meadows, saltmarshes, and European native oyster reefs, by 2043.

To enable accurate reporting of all restoration and enhancement activity within the estuarine, coastal and marine environment, ReMeMaRe (co-funded and developed with The Crown Estate and Natural Capital Ecosystem Assessment Programme) is building a Habitat Restoration Platform. The Habitat Restoration Platform will be a digital asset open to all practitioners, regulators and industry across the United Kingdom, to visually map,

report and track projects, to enhance collaboration, sharing of lessons learnt, and report accurately on progress towards key targets.

The platform is currently in its build phase, and an initial usable product is expected to be available by June 2025, for users to start entering data, and will subsequently be available for data extraction for habitat target reporting in 2026.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund

The National Lottery Heritage Fund support projects that help the UK meet its nature recovery targets. Over the next 10 years the strategic initiative ‘Landscape Connections’ will invest in around 20 projects to work with local communities, organisations, landowners and farmers to put entire landscapes and habitats into recovery. Data from this initiative and wider data from the National Lottery Heritage Fund will be included in future rounds of reporting where possible.

Landscape Recovery

Landscape Recovery (LR) is an environmental land management scheme for landowners and managers who want to take a more ambitious and large-scale approach to producing environmental and climate goods on their land. This scheme is delivered by FCP however LR data is not included in the metric for 2025 reporting, because at the time of analysis projects from the first two rounds of LR had not reached implementation phases, and so delivery data was not available.

Data for projects taken forwards from the first round of LR are expected to be available for inclusion in the analysis for 2026 habitat target reporting onwards.

Wider delivery partner activity

Defra and Natural England are working to develop the approach to collecting data from external partners for reporting purposes. Reporting of action that contributes to the habitat target by external partners is voluntary, and it is unlikely that all actions undertaken by external partners that may contribute will be recorded. However, any habitat creation/restoration action taken by external partners that is not captured in reporting will still benefit nature recovery.

External delivery partners will be invited to share their delivery data since January 2023 for inclusion in future rounds of reporting where possible. Detail on the type and format of data required is available in TIN223 *‘Environment Act Habitat Target - Reporting Data Model and Standard’.*

Interpreting the metric

The metric is a figure for the number of hectares where action is known to have been or is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites since 30 January 2023.

The metric is a cumulative total rather than reporting an amount for each year, as the amount from a given year may be subject to change. Defra may need to adjust previous years contributions (either upward or downwards) based on new information, so the amount reported in 2042 might not be a sum of the amounts reported in every previous year.

Previous yearly contributions may increase, for example, an eligible action that took place in 2023 may not be reported until 2025 but would still need to be recorded. However, the ambition is to minimise time lags in reporting and report action as close to when it was taken as possible.

The figure reported in previous years may have to be reduced in following years, where Defra no longer have reasonable confidence that the action taken will lead to the creation or restoration of wildlife-rich habitat. For example, if a landowner ends an agri-environment scheme agreement early or is found to have not complied with the terms of the agreement, Defra will need to retrospectively remove this contribution to the target.

This metric is only for reporting progress towards the Environment Act habitat target. It only captures the creation and restoration of wildlife-rich habitat outside of protected sites since January 2023 and does not capture broader actions taken for nature recovery. For example, the metric does not provide information about:

a. actions taken within protected sites (including Sites of Special Scientific Interest),
b. actions such as habitat management or protection, or
c. targeted action for species.

These broader actions will all be important for delivering other government targets, such as the Environment Act targets on species abundance and extinction, and international commitments such as 30by30. These actions and targets are reported on elsewhere.

Confidence in the metric

Defra and Natural England have confidence that the metric reported based on the analysis described in this report provides an area where there has been action taken to create or restore wildlife-rich habitat. The aim is to include this metric in future publications of the Outcome Indicator Framework, under the D1 indicator: Quantity, Quality, and Connectivity of habitats.

There are limitations with the data, analysis, and resulting metric that should be considered when interpreting the metric:

a. The metric is not fully comprehensive and does not represent all action taken to create or restore habitat since the habitat target came into effect, as explained above.
b. There are varying levels of alignment between the data included in the analysis and the data model and standard for habitat target reporting. The main issue is that the data contributing to the metric is not all polygon spatial data. Consistent and high-quality spatial polygon data is required to allow confidence that double counting is avoided by enabling us to discriminate actions reported by multiple partners or delivery mechanisms in the same area. As some data is currently not in polygon format, there are limitations in the spatial resolution which creates difficulties in dealing with overlaps, as explained in the method above.
c. Some data has been discounted from the metric because of a lack of resolution on the date that action was undertaken. The target came into effect from 30th January 2023, but some mechanisms report by Financial Year. As such, only data from 2 months of Financial Year 2022/2023 can count towards the target, so where there is not confidence in the month of delivery, this data has been discounted. This will result in an underestimation of the area contributing to the target.

Due to these limitations, Defra and Natural England have taken a precautionary approach to analysis to reduce the risk of over-reporting. As such, there is confidence that the area reported in the metric is the minimum area where action has been undertaken. It is likely that this figure will be revised upwards in future years as more data becomes available and/or the resolution of existing data becomes more suitable to provide confidence in including more data in the metric. However, as set out above, if information becomes available that reported action has ceased or failed the figure may be revised downwards.

There is uncertainty in present reporting about the comprehensiveness of the data, as there are a considerable number of additional delivery mechanisms that will be delivering towards the target that are not yet included; their inclusion will increase the comprehensiveness of future reporting, but there is no way to quantify the uncertainty around the comprehensiveness of the data reported.

There is further uncertainty as the accuracy of spatial environmental data inherently means there is some element of uncertainty in what the data describes. The addition of more datasets further compounds this issue. This uncertainty cannot be solved, but it could be quantified. Defra and Natural England will work on an analysis approach to approximate the level of uncertainty due to the accuracy of spatial data within the output created for future reporting.

Comparing delivery with the Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI)

The habitat target is designed to increase the extent of wildlife-rich habitats. Only the establishment or re-establishment of wildlife-rich habitat counts, not the improvement of existing wildlife-rich habitat.

Drained peatland habitats and ancient woodlands which have become plantations (PAWS), are examples of habitats that have been degraded so severely that their restoration counts as re-establishing wildlife-rich habitat. Forestry England's reporting of PAWS restoration and reporting of peatland restoration through the NCPGS provides data on the condition of habitat before restoration started, to provide confidence that the initial conditions were sufficiently degraded for their restoration activities to count towards the habitat target.

The rest of the spatial data included in this analysis (excluding arable field margins, PAWS and NCPGS) was compared to the Priority Habitat Inventory, and 2,946 hectares showed as overlapping. This could be due to:

- inaccuracies in the spatial location of habitat creation and restoration data, particularly where they were not supplied as polygons;
- inaccuracies in the PHI, where outdated data may suggest a wildlife-rich habitat is present when in reality it has been lost; or
- the reporting of habitat creation and restoration on existing priority habitat, which shouldn't count towards the target.

Due to the range of potential causes for this overlap, this delivery has not been removed from the metric at this time. The best approach to address this overlap will continue to be investigated, and the reporting of data that overlaps with the PHI may alter in future years.

Results

Metric

Table 3 - Metric to report progress towards the statutory habitat target

Date of analysis	Number of hectares where action is known to have been or is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites since 30th January 2023
March 2025	38,877

Additional Summary Statistics

Breakdown by habitat type

Table 4 gives a breakdown of the habitat target reporting metric by broad type of wildlife-rich habitat. Annex 2 sets out the links between the reporting categories below and the allowable values of the habitat target data model.

Some habitat type reporting categories show no delivery; this may be because data on delivery for these habitats is not yet available for inclusion in the analysis. Work is already underway to expand data included in analysis in 2026 where possible, including from mechanisms delivering marine and coastal habitats.

Successful restoration of freshwater, coastal, and marine habitats often requires multiple actions to be undertaken. Consequently, there is less confidence that single interventions will result in successfully establishing wildlife-rich habitats. The use of outcome data rather than action data is being explored for these habitats to increase confidence and enable reporting. Waiting for the habitat to reach the appropriate outcome will increase the amount of time before the habitat can be reported.

Table 4 Breakdown of habitat target metric by wildlife-rich habitat type

Habitat type	Number of hectares where action is known to have been or is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore the wildlife-rich habitat type outside of protected sites since 30th January 2023
Wildlife-rich habitat mosaics	2,288 hectares
Wildlife-rich arable field margins	18,691 hectares[7]
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	3,698 hectares
Wildlife-rich coastal floodplain grazing marsh habitat	103 hectares
Wildlife-rich peatland habitats	3,113 hectares
Wildlife-rich heathland habitats	124 hectares
Wildlife-rich inland rock and scree habitats	No data reported at this time
Wildlife-rich lake habitats	No data reported at this time
Wildlife-rich pond habitats	6 hectares
Wildlife-rich rivers and stream habitats	No data reported at this time
Wildlife-rich native woodland habitat	3,681 hectares
Wildlife-rich wood pasture and parkland habitat	5,741 hectares
Wildlife-rich traditional orchard habitat	63 hectares

[7] FCP have also delivered the baseline amount of AFM present in 2022. This figure represents the amount of delivery above the 2022 baseline amount and up to the 40,000 hectares cap applied for the habitat target.

Habitat type	Number of hectares where action is known to have been or is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore the wildlife-rich habitat type outside of protected sites since 30th January 2023
Wildlife-rich scrub habitat	731 hectares
Wildlife-rich hedgerows and line of trees	596 hectares
Wildlife-rich maritime cliff and slope habitat	No data reported at this time
Wildlife-rich sand dunes and vegetated shingle habitat	No data reported at this time
Wildlife-rich coastal saltmarsh and intertidal mudflat habitat	42 hectares
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	No data reported at this time

Breakdown by data provider

Table 5 - breakdown of the habitat target reporting metric by data provider

Data provider	Number of hectares reported by data providers where action is known to have been or is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites since 30th January 2023
FCP	31,944 hectares
EA	547 hectares
Forestry Commission	2,821 hectares
FE	767 hectares

Nature for Climate Peatland Grant Scheme	2,661 hectares
Total overlap between any data provider	137 hectares

Breakdown by region

Table 6 gives a breakdown of the habitat target reporting metric by Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) area. As set out above, additional nature recovery activity is likely to have taken place within each LNRS area than is reported by this metric, as:

a. The analysis to produce this metric currently includes limited delivery mechanisms captured at a national level.
b. The metric does not include information on wider nature recovery actions such as targeted action for species or actions within protected sites.
c. Arable field margins are not included in this breakdown due to the lack of spatial or location data.

Table 6 - breakdown of the habitat target reporting metric by LNRS area

LNRS area	Number of hectares reported within LNRS area where action is known to have been or is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites since 30th January 2023[8]
Bedfordshire	197 hectares
Berkshire	225 hectares
Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes	134 hectares
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	49 hectares

[8] Some delivery mechanisms and partners report by financial year (including the Environment Agency), in which case data is from 1st April 2023

LNRS area	Number of hectares reported within LNRS area where action is known to have been or is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites since 30th January 2023[8]
Cheshire	153 hectares
Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly	211 hectares
County Durham	1,036 hectares
Cumbria	5,369 hectares
Derbyshire	301 hectares
Devon	798 hectares
Dorset	774 hectares
East Sussex and Brighton & Hove	232 hectares
Gloucestershire	351 hectares
Greater Essex	166 hectares
Greater Lincolnshire	130 hectares
Greater London	3 hectares
Greater Manchester	69 hectares
Hampshire	393 hectares
Herefordshire	203 hectares
Hertfordshire	47 hectares
Hull and East Yorkshire	97 hectares
Isle of Wight	243 hectares
Kent and Medway	992 hectares
Lancashire	101 hectares

LNRS area	Number of hectares reported within LNRS area where action is known to have been or is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites since 30th January 2023[8]
Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland	45 hectares
Liverpool City Region	18 hectares
Norfolk	501 hectares
North Northamptonshire	238 hectares
North of Tyne	750 hectares
North Yorkshire and York	2,541 hectares
Nottinghamshire and Nottingham	92 hectares
Oxfordshire	116 hectares
Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin	379 hectares
Somerset	162 hectares
South of Tyne and Wear	32 hectares
South Yorkshire	35 hectares
Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent	95 hectares
Suffolk	576 hectares
Surrey	36 hectares
Tees Valley	13 hectares
Warwickshire	115 hectares
West Midlands	3 hectares
West Northamptonshire	271 hectares
West of England	40 hectares

LNRS area	Number of hectares reported within LNRS area where action is known to have been or is being taken that is reasonably expected to create or restore wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites since 30th January 2023[8]
West Sussex	1,054 hectares
West Yorkshire	95 hectares
Wiltshire and Swindon	609 hectares
Worcestershire	94 hectares

Interpretation alongside other data

Use of auxiliary data

The habitat target is an action-based (rather than outcome based) target, so information is required about the actions taken to restore or create wildlife-rich habitat and the size of the area intended to become wildlife-rich habitat as a result of those actions. Actions should only be recorded where there is confidence that they are sufficient to lead to the desired wildlife-rich habitat outcome. This report provides the first quantitative evidence of progress towards the Environment Act habitat target, reporting on action data.

The habitat target is one component of wider work to improve the environment and deliver the Environmental Improvement Plan, and the evidence within this report and subsequent reports should be used in conjunction with wider evidence and indicators to assess whether an overall outcome of habitat improvement is occurring.

For example, this report should be considered alongside the outcome-based species targets and other habitat indicators, such as D1: Quantity, quality and connectivity of habitats[9]. The UKCEH Land Cover Map data should also be able to detect new areas of habitat once they become sufficiently established, although it will detect new habitat areas at a broader habitat level than the more resolved wildlife-rich habitat level[10], meaning that it cannot be used to conclude whether wildlife-rich habitat has been established. Instead it should be viewed as auxiliary data that can confirm trends in changes of habitat.

[9] D1: Quantity, quality and connectivity of habitats

[10] UKCEH: Recent Land Cover Change.pdf pg. 32

The Natural Capital and Ecosystem Assessment (NCEA) programme is delivering a nationwide survey of England's land, freshwater assets and coast, mapping the location, extent and condition of ecosystems. However, the habitat extent data is not at an ecological resolution to determine if these habitats are wildlife-rich. NCEA does not collect the action-based data required to monitor progress towards the habitat target, but NCEA data and products could provide auxiliary information to support future assessments of the longer-term outcomes of the habitat restoration action delivered for the target.

Secondary analysis of patch sizes

The single merged layer of habitat creation and restoration action has been combined with the spatial data on priority habitats included in the Priority Habitat Inventory and the wood-pasture and parkland priority habitat layer. This has enabled an assessment of whether the habitat created or restored has led to an increase in the number of larger patches of habitat in England. Specifically, whether creation and restoration actions are increasing the size of existing priority habitat patches and the size of newly created or restored patches that are distinct from existing priority habitat.

Where habitat patches are less than 40 hectares[11] and have partially or entirely been made up of new creation or restoration activity, there has been an assessment of whether the patches are within 200m or 200m-1km of another patch greater than 40 hectares be that existing priority habitat or newly created or restored habitat. This has been included as patches within a 1km distance of a larger patch are likely to be more sustainable than those further away, as they have a greater potential to be repeatedly colonized from the larger patch to help maintain their species populations.

As the single merged layer excludes actions on protected sites, the process of cutting protected sites out of the layer can create multiple very small patches. Consequently, any patch less than 0.1 hectares was excluded from the analysis to avoid this skewing the data.

As creation and restoration actions can sometimes occupy only a proportion of creation and restoration polygons, for example in the instance of FCP data, without information on where within the polygon action was undertaken, it can be difficult to be confident that these actions are adjoined to other creation and restoration activity. Consequently, creation and restoration polygons have not been assumed to be joined if occurring adjacent to each other, which may lead to an under representation of some large patches

[11] The Nature Network Evidence handbook (2020) suggests wildlife sites should be at least 40 ha to maximise species richness and resilience, and at least 100 ha for wider-ranging species or those with specialist requirements and low dispersal abilities. It also acknowledges a need for a number of large nature areas (c. 5-12,000 ha) that will provide centres from which wildlife will brim over into the countryside.

of creation and restoration if the action on the ground is adjacent but reported as multiple polygons. However, the analysis of the number of habitat patches <40 hectares contributed to by creation and restoration activity that is close to existing larger habitat patches shows that many of these smaller patches are not actually close to the large patches. Work on how to deal with uncertainty within spatial data will continue next year.

The patch size analysis does not include the arable field margins that have been created as there is insufficient location and spatial data to allow this, and as field margins they are unlikely to contribute to large habitat patches.

Tables 7 and 8 respectively provide a breakdown of the number of patches of habitat and the area of habitat in England in a range of patch size categories, both including and excluding the areas created and restored since January 2023. Table 9 includes the number of small <40-hectare patches that are within 200m or 200-1km of sites >40 hectares, and may therefore be acting as satellite sites. This gives an indication as to whether habitat creation and restoration is leading to bigger or more closely connected areas of habitat. This shows that whilst there are some increases in larger patch sizes, a large number of very small habitat patches were created and restored since 2023. The majority of isolated patches < 2 hectares are hedgerow actions, but there are other habitats also being created and restored in small patch sizes.

Table 7- Breakdown of the area of habitat in different patch size categories in England

	>5000 ha	100-5000 ha	40-100 ha	2-40 ha	< 2ha	Total
Priority habitat	218,516	876,126	284,547	654,467	171,053	2,204,709
Priority habitat + habitat created and restored since January 2023	218,646	885,026	287,748	656,341	171,589	2,219,350
Change in area due to habitat creation and restoration activity since January 2023	130	8,900	3,201	1,874	536	14,641

Table 8- Breakdown of the number of habitat patches in different patch size categories in England

	>5000 ha	100-5000 ha	40-100 ha	2-40 ha	< 2ha	Total
Priority habitat	21	2,532	4,633	85,762	32,3063	41,6011
Priority habitat + habitat created and restored post January 2023	21	2,556	4,685	86,064	332,898	426,224
Change in patch number due to habitat creation and restoration activity since January 2023	0	24	52	302	9,835	10,213

Table 9 – The number of small habitat patches that newly created and restored habitat contribute to and whether they are close to larger sites (making them more sustainable).

Category	Area in ha	Number of patches
Habitat patches <40 ha contributed to by creation and restoration since 2023	32,633	15,742
Habitat patches <40 ha contributed to by creation and restoration since 2023 within 200-1000m of patches >40ha	9,419	3,944
Habitat patches <40 ha contributed to by creation and restoration since 2023 within 200m of patches >40ha	9,701	2,271

Annex 1 – Transformation questions

The statements used to initially test data and flag any transformations needed:

- Does the dataset have a licence? Do the licence terms allow us to use the data for our needs?
- Is the data spatial, in the form of polygons? If not, is there additional information (such as field parcel IDs) that could allow for joins to an existing polygon spatial framework?
- Is data from the correct date range? (no data from before January 2023) Does the date field capture sufficient detail (year and month of action)?
- What is the level of alignment with the data model?
    - What format is the habitat type in?
    - Does habitat amount equal the polygon area?
    - Are there any instances where baseline habitat and resultant habitat type are the same? (therefore, not demonstrating restoration or creation)
    - Are there any additional transformations required to enable use of the dataset?
- Is there any possibility of overlaps internal to the dataset?
- After a visual check, are there any obvious anomalies or errors? (delivery where it is unexpected, for example in very urban areas)

Annex 2 - Wildlife-rich habitat reporting types

Wildlife-rich habitat is defined by the legislation that sets the statutory habitat target. TIN223 'Environment Act Habitat Target – Reporting Data Model and Standard' includes the list of allowable values for wildlife-rich habitats. Data contributors should give the most precise descriptor name of the type of wildlife-rich habitat where possible. Where the specific wildlife-rich habitat name is not known, there are intermediate and general options available for these to still be reported, however, there must be confidence that one of the specific wildlife-rich habitats will be created or restored.

For the purposes of reporting, the allowable values of the data model have been grouped within a higher-level reporting category of wildlife-rich habitat type, as set out in Table 8.

Table 7 - Higher level reporting category of wildlife-rich habitat type

Reporting category	General type in data model	Intermediate type in data model	Precise habitat type in data model
Wildlife-rich habitat mosaics	N/A	N/A	Wildlife-rich mosaic habitat
Wildlife-rich habitat mosaics	N/A	N/A	Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land priority habitat
Wildlife-rich arable field margins	N/A	N/A	Arable field margin priority habitat
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	Wildlife-rich grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich acid grassland - type unknown	Lowland dry acid grassland priority habitat
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	Wildlife-rich grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich acid grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich lowland acid grassland
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	Wildlife-rich grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich acid grassland - type unknown	Nardus grassland on siliceous substrates in mountain areas.
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	Wildlife-rich grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich acid grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich wax cap grasslands in the uplands
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	Wildlife-rich grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich acid grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich upland dry acid grassland
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	Wildlife-rich grassland - type unknown	N/A	Lowland calcareous grassland priority habitat
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	Wildlife-rich grassland - type unknown	N/A	Upland calcareous grassland priority habitat

Reporting category	General type in data model	Intermediate type in data model	Precise habitat type in data model
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	Wildlife-rich grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich neutral grassland	Lowland meadows priority habitat
Wildlife-rich grassland habitat	Wildlife-rich grassland - type unknown	Wildlife-rich neutral grassland	Upland hay meadows priority habitat
Wildlife-rich coastal floodplain grazing marsh habitat	N/A	N/A	Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh priority habitat
Wildlife-rich coastal floodplain grazing marsh habitat	N/A	N/A	Wildlife-rich floodplain wetland mosaic
Wildlife-rich peatland habitats	Wildlife-rich peatland habitat - type unknown	Wildlife-rich fen habitat – type unknown	Purple moor-grass and rush pasture priority habitat
Wildlife-rich peatland habitats	Wildlife-rich peatland habitat - type unknown	Wildlife-rich fen habitat – type unknown	Lowland fen priority habitat
Wildlife-rich peatland habitats	Wildlife-rich peatland habitat - type unknown	Wildlife-rich fen habitat – type unknown	Reedbed priority habitat
Wildlife-rich peatland habitats	Wildlife-rich peatland habitat - type unknown	Wildlife-rich fen habitat – type unknown	Upland flushes, fens and swamps priority habitat
Wildlife-rich peatland habitats	Wildlife-rich peatland habitat - type unknown	Wildlife-rich bog habitat – type unknown	Blanket bog priority habitat
Wildlife-rich peatland habitats	Wildlife-rich peatland habitat - type unknown	Wildlife-rich bog habitat – type unknown	Lowland raised bog priority habitat
Wildlife-rich heathland habitats	N/A	N/A	Mountain heaths and willow scrub priority habitat
Wildlife-rich heathland habitats	N/A	N/A	Lowland heathland priority habitat
Wildlife-rich heathland habitats	N/A	N/A	Upland heathland priority habitat
Wildlife-rich inland rock and scree habitats	Wildlife-rich Inland rock and scree	N/A	Calaminarian grasslands priority habitat

Reporting category	General type in data model	Intermediate type in data model	Precise habitat type in data model
Wildlife-rich inland rock and scree habitats	Wildlife-rich Inland rock and scree	N/A	Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats priority habitat
Wildlife-rich inland rock and scree habitats	Wildlife-rich Inland rock and scree	N/A	Limestone pavements priority habitat
Wildlife-rich lake habitats	Wildlife-rich lake habitat (greater than 2ha) – type unknown	N/A	Aquifer-fed naturally fluctuating water bodies priority habitat
Wildlife-rich lake habitats	Wildlife-rich lake habitat (greater than 2ha) – type unknown	N/A	Eutrophic standing waters priority habitat
Wildlife-rich lake habitats	Wildlife-rich lake habitat (greater than 2ha) – type unknown	N/A	Mesotrophic lakes priority habitat
Wildlife-rich lake habitats	Wildlife-rich lake habitat (greater than 2ha) – type unknown	N/A	Oligotrophic and dystrophic lakes priority habitat
Wildlife-rich pond habitat	N/A	N/A	Pond priority habitat less than 2 ha
Wildlife-rich rivers and stream habitat	N/A	N/A	Rivers and stream priority habitat
Wildlife-rich native woodland habitat	Wildlife-rich native woodland: broadleaved & wildlife rich mixed woodland	N/A	Lowland beech and yew woodland priority habitat
Wildlife-rich native woodland habitat	Wildlife-rich native woodland: broadleaved & wildlife rich mixed woodland	N/A	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland priority habitat
Wildlife-rich native woodland habitat	Wildlife-rich native woodland: broadleaved & wildlife rich mixed woodland	N/A	Upland mixed ashwoods priority habitat
Wildlife-rich native woodland habitat	Wildlife-rich native woodland: broadleaved & wildlife rich mixed woodland	N/A	Upland oakwood priority habitat

Reporting category	General type in data model	Intermediate type in data model	Precise habitat type in data model
Wildlife-rich native woodland habitat	Wildlife-rich native woodland: broadleaved & wildlife rich mixed woodland	N/A	Wet woodland priority habitat
Wildlife-rich wood pasture and parkland habitat	N/A	N/A	Wood-pasture and parkland priority habitat
Wildlife-rich traditional orchard habitat	N/A	N/A	Traditional orchards priority habitat
Wildlife-rich scrub habitat	Wildlife-rich scrub - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich blackthorn scrub
Wildlife-rich scrub habitat	Wildlife-rich scrub - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich bramble scrub
Wildlife-rich scrub habitat	Wildlife-rich scrub - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich gorse scrub
Wildlife-rich scrub habitat	Wildlife-rich scrub - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich hawthorn scrub
Wildlife-rich scrub habitat	Wildlife-rich scrub - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich hazel scrub
Wildlife-rich scrub habitat	Wildlife-rich scrub - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich mixed scrub
Wildlife-rich hedgerows and lines of trees	Native species rich hedgerow	N/A	Hedgerow priority habitat
Wildlife-rich hedgerows and lines of trees	Native species rich hedgerow	N/A	Native Species-Rich Hedgerow with trees
Wildlife-rich hedgerows and lines of trees	Native species rich hedgerow	N/A	Native Species-Rich Hedgerow - Associated with bank or ditch
Wildlife-rich hedgerows and lines of trees	Native species rich hedgerow	N/A	Native Hedgerow with trees - Associated with bank or ditch
Wildlife-rich hedgerows and lines of trees	Native species rich hedgerow	N/A	Native Hedgerow - Associated with bank or ditch

Reporting category	General type in data model	Intermediate type in data model	Precise habitat type in data model
Wildlife-rich hedgerows and lines of trees	Native species rich hedgerow	N/A	Native Hedgerow with trees
Wildlife-rich hedgerows and lines of trees	N/A	N/A	Line of Trees (Ecologically Valuable)
Wildlife-rich hedgerows and lines of trees	N/A	N/A	Line of Trees (Ecologically Valuable) - with Bank or Ditch
Wildlife-rich maritime cliff and slope habitat	N/A	N/A	Maritime cliff and slopes priority habitat
Wildlife-rich sand dunes and vegetated shingle habitat	Wildlife-rich supralittoral sediment – type unknown	N/A	Coastal sand dunes priority habitat
Wildlife-rich sand dunes and vegetated shingle habitat	Wildlife-rich supralittoral sediment – type unknown	N/A	Coastal vegetated shingle priority habitat
Wildlife-rich coastal saltmarsh and intertidal mudflat habitat	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Coastal saltmarsh priority habitat
Wildlife-rich coastal saltmarsh and intertidal mudflat habitat	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Intertidal mudflats priority habitat
Wildlife-rich coastal saltmarsh and intertidal mudflat habitat	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich coastal saltmarsh and saline reedbeds
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Peat and clay exposures with Piddocks priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Seagrass bed priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Sheltered muddy gravel priority habitat

Reporting category	General type in data model	Intermediate type in data model	Precise habitat type in data model
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich littoral muddy sand
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich Littoral coarse sediment
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich Littoral sand
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich Littoral mixed sediments
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral sediments - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich Features of littoral sediment
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Intertidal boulder communities priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Intertidal chalk priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral rock - type unknown	N/A	*Sabellaria alveolata* reefs priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich High energy littoral rock
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich Moderate energy littoral rock
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich low energy littoral rock
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich littoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich features of littoral rock
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Estuarine rocky habitats priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Fragile sponge and anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats priority habitat

Reporting category	General type in data model	Intermediate type in data model	Precise habitat type in data model
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral rock - type unknown	N/A	*Sabellaria spinulosa* reef priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Subtidal chalk priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Tide-swept channels priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich Infralittoral rock
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich circalittoral rock
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral rock - type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich subtidal stony reef
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Saline lagoon priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Blue mussel beds on sediment priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Horse mussel bed priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Maërl bed priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Mud habitats in deep water priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Subtidal sands and gravel priority habitat
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich native oyster (Ostrea edulis) beds
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich subtidal coarse sediment

Reporting category	General type in data model	Intermediate type in data model	Precise habitat type in data model
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich subtidal mixed sediments
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich subtidal mud
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich subtidal sand
Other wildlife-rich marine and coastal habitats	Wildlife-rich sublittoral sediment, type unknown	N/A	Wildlife-rich subtidal seagrass beds

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