

Overview of assessment of change for all indicators and their component measures

Strategy theme and relevant indicators		Long-term change ¹	Short-term change ²
Theme 1: A more integrated, large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea			
1. Extent and condition of protected areas	Extent of protected areas on land	 1999 to 2020	 2015 to 2020
	Extent of protected areas at sea	 1999 to 2020	 2015 to 2020
	SSSIs in favourable or unfavourable recovering condition	 2003 to 2020	 2015 to 2020
2a. Status of threatened habitats	Extent of priority habitats		
	Condition of priority habitats		 2015 to 2020
2b. Status of threatened habitats: habitats of European importance	Percentage of habitats of European importance in favourable or improving conservation status	 2007 to 2019	 2013 to 2019
3. Habitat connectivity in the wider countryside	Experimental statistic on functional connectivity in the UK	Long-term change: Not assessed	Short-term change: Not assessed
4a. Status of priority species: relative abundance	Change in relative abundance of priority species in the UK	 1970 to 2018	 2013 to 2018
4b. Status of priority species: distribution	Change in distribution of priority species in the UK	 1970 to 2017	 2012 to 2017
4c. Status of threatened species: species of European importance	Percentage of species of European importance in favourable or improving conservation status	 2007 to 2019	 2013 to 2019
5. Species in the wider countryside: farmland	 Breeding birds on farmland	 1970 to 2017	 2012 to 2017
	Butterflies of the wider countryside on farmland	 1990 to 2019	 2014 to 2019
	Bat populations	 1999 to 2018	 2013 to 2018

¹ The earliest available year is used as the baseline for assessment of long-term change. The base year used for each measure is shown in the table. Where data are unavailable or if the data run is fewer than 10 years, a long-term assessment is not given.

² An assessment of change for the latest 5 years; or as shown if the data do not allow for an assessment over a 5-year period.

Strategy theme and relevant indicators		Long-term change ¹	Short-term change ²
	Experimental statistic on abundance of farmland plant species	Long-term change: Not assessed	Short-term change: Not assessed
6. Species in the wider countryside: woodland	 Breeding birds in woodland	 1970 to 2017	 2012 to 2017
	Butterflies of the wider countryside in woodland	 1990 to 2019	 2014 to 2019
	Experimental statistic on abundance of woodland plant species	Long-term change: Not assessed	Short-term change: Not assessed
7. Species in the wider countryside: wetlands	 Breeding wetland birds	 1975 to 2017	 2012 to 2017
	 Wintering waterbirds	 1975/76 to 2016/17	 2011/12 to 2016/17
	Experimental statistic on abundance of wetlands plant species	Not assessed	Not assessed
8. Species in the wider marine environment	 Breeding seabirds	Long-term change: Not assessed	Short-term change: Not assessed
9. Biodiversity and ecosystem services: terrestrial	Cumulative net removal of greenhouse gases by forests	 1990 to 2018	 2013 to 2018
10. Biodiversity and ecosystem services: pollination	Distribution of pollinating insects in the UK	 1980 to 2017	 2012 to 2017
11. Biodiversity and ecosystem services: marine	Fish size in the North-western North Sea	 1983 to 2019	 2014 to 2019
12a. Genetic resources for food and agriculture: animal genetic resources – effective population size of native breeds at risk in the UK	Goat breeds	 2004 to 2019	 2014 to 2019
	Pig breeds	 2000 to 2019	 2014 to 2019
	Horse breeds	 2000 to 2019	 2014 to 2019
	Sheep breeds	 2000 to 2019	 2014 to 2019
	Cattle breeds	 2000 to 2019	 2014 to 2019
12b. Genetic resources for food and agriculture: plant genetic resources	UK Cumulative Enrichment Index	 1960 to 2018	 2013 to 2018

Theme 2: Putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy

Strategy theme and relevant indicators		Long-term change ¹	Short-term change ²
13. Public awareness, understanding and support for conservation	Proportion of people highly engaged with the issue of biodiversity loss		
14. Taking action for the natural environment	Conservation volunteering	2000 to 2018	2013 to 2018
	Wildlife gardening		
15. Funding for biodiversity	Public sector expenditure on biodiversity in England	2000/01 to 2018/19	2013/14 to 2018/19
	Non-governmental organisation expenditure on biodiversity in the UK		2013/14 to 2018/19
16. Integrating biodiversity considerations into local decision making	Local sites under positive conservation management	2008/09 to 2018/19	2013/14 to 2018/19
17. Global biodiversity impacts of UK consumption	Under development	Long-term change: Not assessed	Short-term change: Not assessed
Theme 3: Reducing environmental pressures			
18. Climate change impacts	Timing of biological events: Spring Index	Long-term change: Not assessed	Short-term change: Not assessed
19. Trends in pressures on biodiversity: pollution	Area affected by acidity	1996 to 2017	2012 to 2017
	Area affected by nitrogen deposition	1996 to 2017	2012 to 2017
	Marine pollution: combined input of hazardous substances	1990 to 2018	2013 to 2018
20. Trends in pressures on biodiversity: invasive species in Great Britain	Freshwater species	1960 to 2019	Short-term change: Not assessed
	Marine (coastal) species	1960 to 2019	Short-term change: Not assessed
	Terrestrial species	1960 to 2019	Short-term change: Not assessed
21. Trends in pressures on biodiversity: surface water body status	Percentage of surface water bodies in 'High' or 'Good' ecological status		2013 to 2018
22. Agricultural and forest area in environmental management schemes	Area of land under higher-level or targeted agri-environment schemes	1987 to 2019	2014 to 2019
	Percentage of woodland certified as sustainably managed	2001 to 2020	2015 to 2020

Strategy theme and relevant indicators		Long-term change ¹	Short-term change ²
23. Sustainable fisheries: fish stocks harvested within safe limits	Percentage of UK fish stocks harvested sustainably	 1990 to 2018	 2013 to 2018
	Percentage of UK fish stocks with biomass at full reproductive capacity	 1990 to 2018	 2013 to 2018
Theme 4: Improving knowledge			
24. Biodiversity data for decision making	Cumulative number of records in the National Biodiversity Network	 2004 to 2020	 2015 to 2020
	Number of publicly accessible records at 1km ² resolution or better	 2008 to 2020	 2015 to 2020

 = improving

 = little or no overall change

 = deteriorating

 = insufficient or no comparable data

Assessment of change: all measures

There are 51 individual measures that make up 24 indicators.

In the long term:

- 21 measures (41%) show an improvement;
- 3 measures (6%) show little or no overall change; and
- 14 measures (27%) show a deterioration.

There are insufficient data to make long term assessments for 6 measures (12%), and 7 measures (14%) are not assessed.

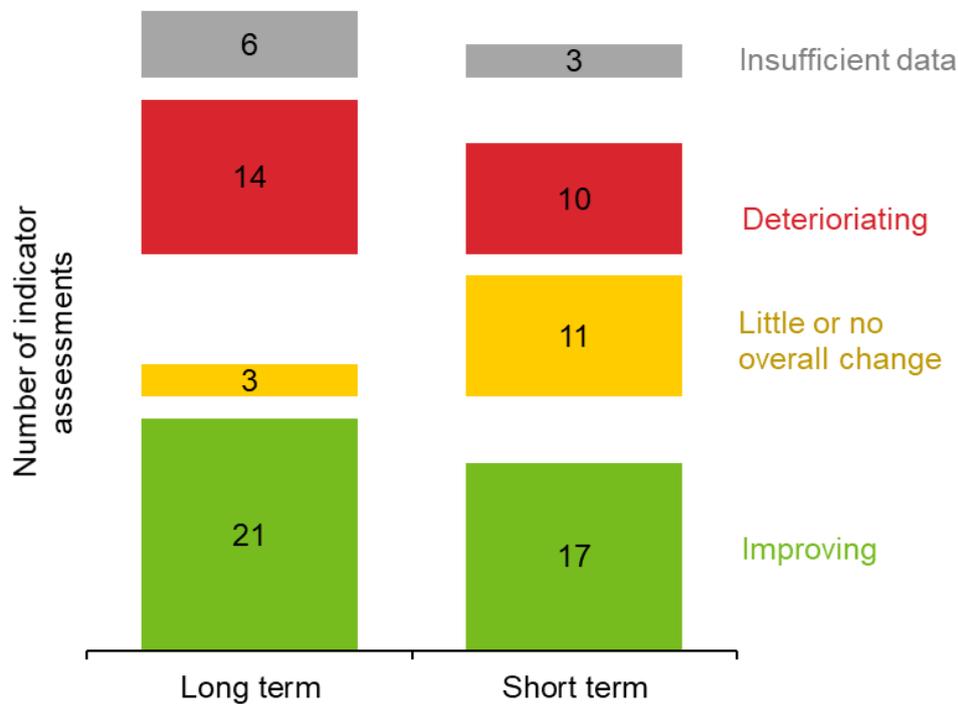
In the short term:

- 17 measures (33%) show an improvement;
- 11 measures (22%) show little or no overall change; and
- 10 measures (20%) show a deterioration.

There are insufficient data to make short term assessments for 3 measures (6%) and 10 measures (20%) are not assessed.

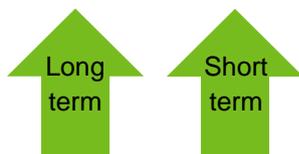
The charts below show the accumulative traffic light designations for the 51 measures and for the different themes.

Figure 1: Number of long-term and short-term indicator assessments by direction of change, all measures and strategy themes



Note: Based on 51 measures, which make up 24 indicators (7 measures are not assessed in the long term and 10 measures are not assessed in the short term).

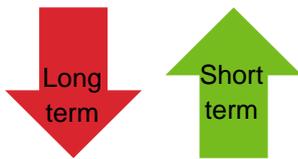
Seventeen measures either show an improvement in both the long term and short term, or they show an improvement in the short term and, for the long term, they are not yet assessed:



- Extent of protected areas at sea;
- Condition of priority habitats;
- Bat populations;
- Removal of greenhouse gases by forests in England;
- Effective population size of UK native goat breeds;
- Effective population size of UK native sheep breeds;
- Effective population size of UK native cattle breeds;
- UK Plant genetic resources – Enrichment Index;
- Time spent on environmental (conservation) volunteering;
- Non-governmental organisation expenditure on biodiversity in the UK;
- Air pollution impacts on sensitive habitats: sulphur (acidity);
- Marine pollution: combined input of hazardous substances;
- Area of farmland under higher level or targeted agri-environment schemes;
- Percentage of UK fish stocks harvested sustainably;
- Percentage of UK fish stocks with biomass at full reproductive capacity;
- Cumulative number of records in the National Biodiversity Network; and
- Number of publicly accessible records at 1 km² resolution or better.

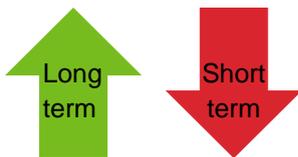
Five measures have deteriorated in the long term but improved or remained stable in the short term:

These are:



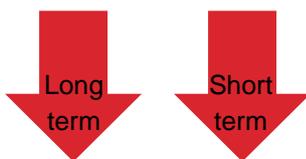
- Change in abundance of priority species in the UK;
- Change in distribution of priority species in the UK;
- Butterflies of the wider countryside in woodland;
- Distribution of pollinating insects in the UK; and
- Effective population size of horse breeds in the UK.

Conversely, 3 measures show improvement in the long term but are deteriorating in the short term. These are:



- Wintering waterbirds;
- Public sector expenditure on biodiversity in England; and
- Percentage of woodland certified as sustainably managed.

The following 10 measures have deteriorated in all time periods over which assessments have been made. These are:



- Percentage of habitats of European importance in favourable or improving conservation status;
- Percentage of species of European importance in favourable or improving conservation status;
- Breeding birds on farmland;
- Breeding birds in woodland;
- Marine ecosystem integrity (size of fish in the North Sea);
- Effective population size of pig breeds;

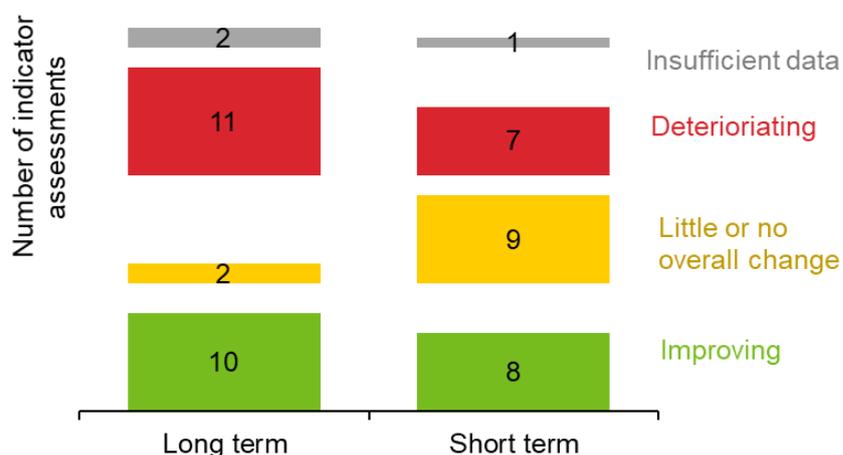
- Extent of invasive species in Great Britain: Freshwater (not assessed over the short term);
- Extent of invasive species in Great Britain: Marine (not assessed over the short term);
- Extent of invasive species in Great Britain: Terrestrial (not assessed over the short term);
- and

- Proportion of surface water bodies in 'high' or 'good' ecological status (not yet assessed over the long term).

Strategy theme 1 – A more integrated, large scale approach to conservation on land and at sea

- Over the long term, 10 measures have improved, of these, 7 continue to improve in the short term; however, wintering water birds is declining in the short term.
- Of the 11 measures deteriorating in the long term, 6 of these deteriorated over the short term, and 5 showed little or no overall change over the short term.
- The one measure for which it is currently only possible to make a short-term assessment (2a: Condition of priority habitats), has improved over this time period.

Figure 2: Number of long-term and short-term indicator assessments by direction of change, strategy theme 1.

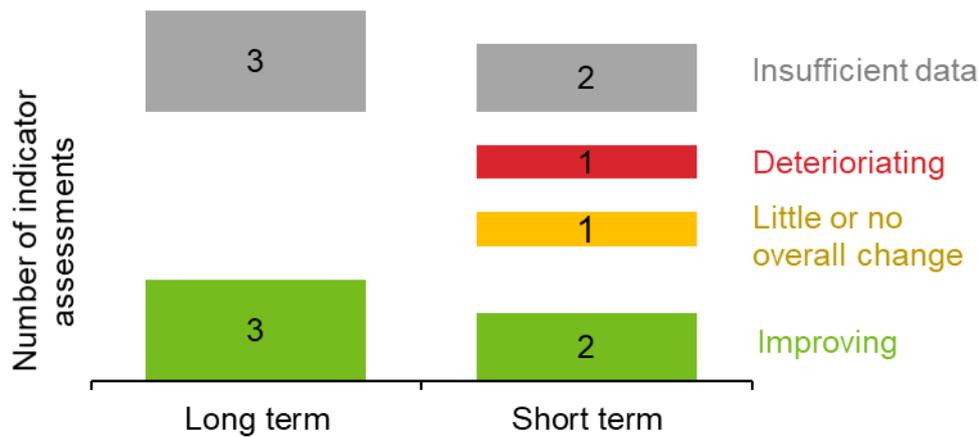


Note: Based on 30 measures, which make up 12 indicators. Two indicators/measures are not assessed in the long term or short term and a further 3 measures (from 3 separate indicators) are not assessed in the long or short term either.

Strategy theme 2 – Putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy

- For this theme, 2 measures are not yet assessed in both the long term and short term; these are the Proportion of people highly engaged in action to combat biodiversity loss, and the Proportion of households undertaking wildlife gardening.
- Of the 3 measures in the theme that show long-term improvement, one (Time spent in environmental volunteering) has also improved in the short term; one (Public sector expenditure on biodiversity in England) has deteriorated in the short term; and one (Local sites under positive conservation management) has shown little or no overall change in the short term.
- Non-governmental organisation expenditure on biodiversity in the UK has increased in the short term; it is not yet possible to make a long-term assessment of this measure.

Figure 3: Number of long-term and short-term indicator assessments by direction of change, strategy theme 2.

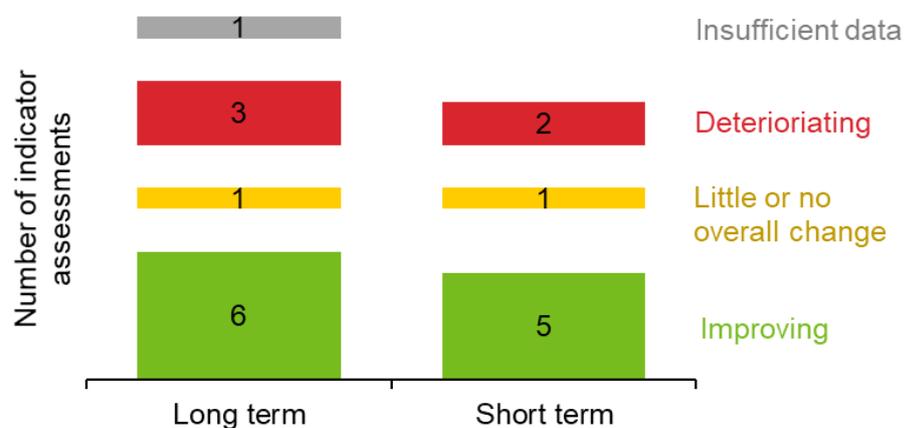


Note: Based on 7 measures which make up 5 indicators. One indicator/measure is not assessed in either the long term or the short term.

Strategy theme 3 – Reducing environmental pressures

- 5 measures have improved in both the long and short term: these are Area affected by sulphur (acidity); Marine pollution; Area of land under environmental management schemes; Percentage of fish stocks harvested sustainably; and Percentage of fish stocks with biomass at full reproductive capacity.
- The percentage of woodland certified as sustainably managed has improved in the long term but deteriorated over the short term.
- 3 measures, all relating to pressure from invasive species, have deteriorated in the long term; it is not possible to assess these measures in the short term.
- The percentage of surface water bodies classified as 'good' or 'high' ecological status cannot yet be assessed over the long term and has deteriorated in the short term.

Figure 4: Number of long-term and short-term indicator assessments by direction of change, strategy theme 3.



Note: Based on 12 measures which make up 6 indicators. One indicator/measure is not assessed in the long term or the short term and a further indicator comprising of 3 measures is not assessed in the short term.

Strategy theme 4 – Improving knowledge

This theme only has one indicator (with 2 measures), so no chart is provided. The cumulative number of records in the National Biodiversity Network and the number of publicly accessible records at 1km² resolution or better have both improved over the long term and the short term.