

Environmental Statistics Report Supplementary Publication, January 2020

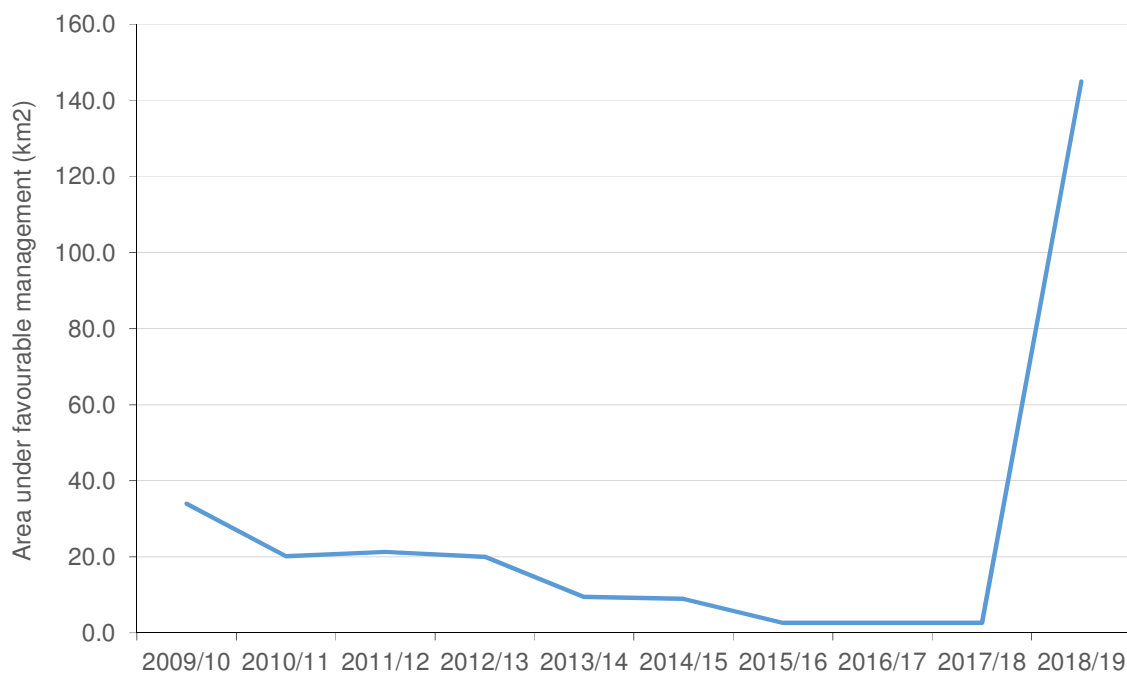
Programme for Government indicator 45: Biodiversity Terrestrial and Marine Protected Sites Under Favourable Management

The Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021, under outcome 2: we live and work sustainably – protecting the environment, has a Biodiversity indicator (indicator 45) measured by the area of terrestrial and marine protected sites under favourable management. This supplementary publication provides the latest information on the area of terrestrial and marine protected sites under favourable management.

The Department designates an ecologically coherent network of terrestrial and marine protected sites. Once designated, the overall condition of these sites are assessed and management plans are implemented to bring them into 'favourable conservation status' (FCS), also known as areas under favourable management.

Terrestrial protected sites under favourable management

Figure 1 Terrestrial protected sites under favourable management 2009-10 to 2018-19



	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Area under favourable management (km ²)	33.99	20.15	21.31	20.00	9.45	8.98	2.63	2.63	2.63	145.00

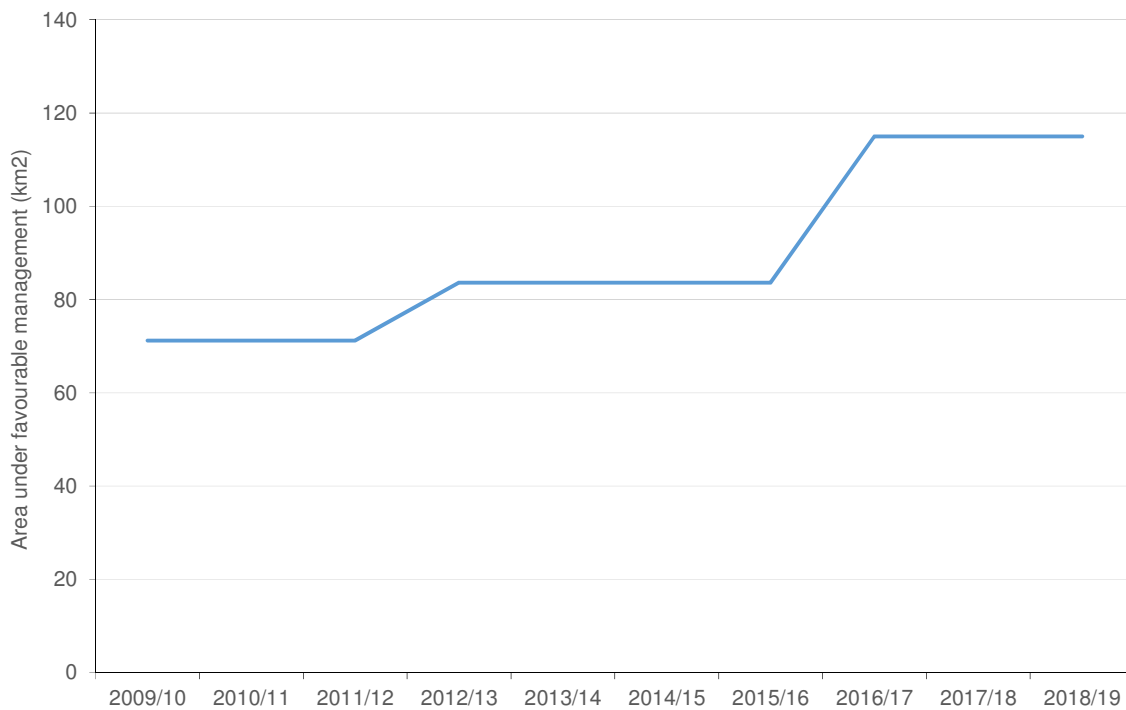
Source: DAERA

The area of terrestrial protected sites under favourable management has shown a decreasing trend since 2009/10 until 2017/18. During this period, the Department has been working on designating an ecologically coherent network of terrestrial and marine protected sites. The total terrestrial protected sites increased from 1,384km² in 2009/10 to 1,487km² in 2018/19. The Department has now entered a phase where the necessary management measures will be identified and introduced for both terrestrial and marine protected sites, and the focus between 2018 and 2022 will be on bringing the protected sites network into favourable management. The terrestrial figure for protected sites under favourable management 2018/19 shows large increases due to the roll out of various environmental management agreements including the Environmental Farming Scheme.

In 2018/19, the area of terrestrial protected sites under favourable management in Northern Ireland was recorded as 145.00 square kilometres which has increased since the baseline year for PfG reporting (2015/16) when 2.63 square kilometres of terrestrial protected sites were under favourable management and is therefore considered as a positive change for PfG reporting.

Marine protected sites under favourable management

Figure 2 Marine protected sites under favourable management 2009-10 to 2018-19



	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Area under favourable management (km ²)	71.22	71.22	71.22	83.62	83.62	83.62	83.62	115.00	115.00	115.00

Source: DAERA

The area of marine protected sites under favourable management has shown an increasing trend since 2009/10. During this period, the Department has been working on designating an ecologically coherent network of terrestrial and marine protected sites. The total marine protected sites increased from 269km² in 2009/10 to 2,566km² in 2018/19. As detailed earlier, the Department has now entered a phase where the necessary management measures will be identified and introduced for both terrestrial and marine protected areas, and the focus between 2018 and 2022 will be on bringing the protected area network into favourable management.

In 2018/19, the area of marine protected sites under favourable management in Northern Ireland was recorded as 115.00 square kilometres which has increased since the baseline year for PfG reporting (2015/16) when 83.62 square kilometres of marine protected sites were under favourable management and is therefore considered as a positive change for PfG reporting.

Further information on biodiversity and other environmental statistics are available in the latest edition of the [Environmental Statistics Report](#).

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