

DORSET LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY HABITAT ASSEMBLAGES

Habitat assemblage:	Species of maritime cliffs, undercliffs and coastal slopes
Broad Habitat type:	Coastlands
S41 and Priority Habitat type:	Maritime cliffs and slopes
Composite species assemblages:	<p>Breeding birds of sea cliffs</p> <p>Invertebrates of cliff slopes and maritime grasslands</p> <p>Invertebrates of scree and rock faces</p> <p>Plants of cliffs ledges and maritime grassland</p> <p>Bryophytes of sheltered maritime undercliffs</p> <p>Bryophytes and lichens of coastal slopes</p> <p>Lichens of coastal rocks and boulders</p> <p>Bats species that use maritime features</p>

Habitat assemblage description:	<p>There is approximately 78-kilometres of cliff habitat in Dorset of which around 52-km is composed of harder rocks such as limestone. The remaining area are composed of soft clays and sands and characterized by frequent landslips, these are covered by separate guidance. Hard rock cliffs tend to have vertical or near-vertical profiles with a cliff top of varying width. The lower cliffs are generally free of vegetation the ledges providing nesting sites for seabirds. Further up vegetation begins to appear and includes nationally important populations of sea cabbage, sea-lavenders and golden samphire. The Portland and Purbeck limestone are very important building stones and have been quarried for centuries including along the coast. These are now abandoned and have become very important for biodiversity, and by their very nature can provide a more sheltered micro-climate which is especially important for invertebrates. The position of Dorset on the South Coast and the cliffs southerly aspect makes them very important for invertebrates, bryophytes, lichens and plants that have a Mediterranean-Atlantic distribution.</p>
--	--

Other related assemblages:	<p>Species of soft rock and slumping cliffs</p> <p>Species of short, open chalk and limestone grassland</p>
-----------------------------------	---

Pressures and Threats	
PA08	Extensive grazing or under-grazing by livestock
	Some undercliffs were formerly grazed as part of the farm but subsequently the cliff top has been fenced allowing scrub to develop forming a barrier between the cliff / undercliff and the cliff top. Flower-rich grassland on the cliff top and adjacent to it can be very important for foraging invertebrates.
PA13	Application of natural or synthetic fertilisers on agricultural land

	Regular application of artificial fertilizers and slurry on land adjacent to the cliff top may lead to run-off and enrichment of vegetation on the cliff or undercliff.
PF05	Sports, tourism and leisure activities
	The Dorset coast attracts many tourists and therefore very important to the rural economy. Leisure activities can impact on this habitat in several ways. Around the 'honey-pots' (typically large car parks and visitor centres) the footfall can cause localised erosion especially during wet weather and on steep slopes. Climbing is a popular activity on parts of the Portland and Purbeck coasts and for the most part is restricted to designated areas to limit the impact on nesting birds during the breeding season, but it still needs to be monitored. Bouldering on the eastern undercliff on Portland is having a negative impact on some boulders that support important lichen assemblages.
PI02	Other invasive alien species
	The micro-climate of the Dorset coast makes it favourable to non-native plants that have become naturalized with buddleja, cotoneaster, seaside fleabane, Cape fig, holm oak and sycamore among the species causing the greatest impact.
PI03	Problematic native species
	In the absence of grazing coarse grasses such as cock's-foot and tor-grass can increase to the detriment of smaller herbs, and also reduces bare ground which is an important feature on cliff tops and coast slopes for invertebrates, bryophytes and lichens. Eventually scrub may colonise with invasive fast-growing species such as Bramble, blackthorn and ivy a particular problem at some sites.
PK04	Atmospheric N-deposition
	Prolonged low-level deposition of nitrogen and ammonia compounds has a fertilizing effect on the vegetation which is compounded by reduced grazing levels and an increased growing season.

Micro-habitat assemblage: Breeding birds of sea cliffs

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures									
Birds	<i>Alca torda</i>	Razorbill	AMBER	n/a	n/a	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Atlantic Puffin	RED	n/a	n/a	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Birds	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Northern Fulmar	AMBER	n/a	n/a	2										
Birds	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	European Shag	RED	n/a	n/a	1										
Birds	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Great Cormorant	AMBER	n/a	n/a	2										
Birds	<i>Pyrhocorax pyrhocorax</i>	Red-billed Chough		n/a	n/a	6										
Birds	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Black-legged Kittiwake	RED	n/a	n/a	1										
Birds	<i>Uria aalge</i>	Common Guillemot	AMBER	n/a	n/a	2										

Micro-habitat assemblage: Invertebrates of cliff slopes and maritime grasslands

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures									
Beetle	<i>Amphimallon fallenii</i>	Scarce Summer Chafer	NT	n/a	n/a	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bugs	<i>Ischnodemus quadratus</i>	a ground bug	EN	n/a	n/a	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Flies	<i>Myopites eximius</i>	a picture-winged fly	LC	n/a	n/a	3										
Wasps	<i>Chrysis ruddii</i>			n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Wasps	<i>Euodynerus quadriasciatus</i>		VU	n/a	n/a	1	PJ07	PJ09	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Wasps	<i>Tachysphex unicolor</i>			n/a	n/a	3, 4	PA08	PF05		.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bees	<i>Andrena nitidiuscula</i>	Carrot Mining Bee	R	n/a	LC	3	PA05	PA08	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bees	<i>Sphecodes rubicundus</i>	Red-tailed Blood Bee	.	n/a	NT(ERLB)	2	PA04	PA05	PA08	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Butterflie s	<i>Thymelicus acteon</i>	Lulworth Skipper	NT	n/a	n/a	2										
Moths	<i>Agrotis cinerea</i>	Light Feathered Rustic		n/a	n/a	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Conisania andalusica</i>	Barrett's Marbled Coronet		n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Cucullia absinthii</i>	Wormwood		n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Eupithecia valerianata</i>	Valerian Pug		n/a	n/a	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Hadena albimacula</i>	White Spot	NT	n/a	n/a	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Scotopteryx bipunctaria</i>	Chalk Carpet				5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>	Four-spotted	NT	n/a	n/a	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Acompsia schmidtellus</i>	Marjoram Snout; Marjoram Crest		n/a	n/a	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Acroclita subsequana</i>	Sea Spurge Tortrix; Coast Spurge Bell	pRDB	n/a	n/a	3, 4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Agdistis meridionalis</i>	Cliff Plume		n/a	n/a	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Agonopterix nanatella</i>	Carline Buff; Carline Flat-body		n/a	n/a	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Agonopterix pallorella</i>	Black-streaked Buff; Pale Flat-body		n/a	n/a	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Coleophora ochrea</i>	Large Buff Case-bearer		n/a	n/a	3, 4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Dichrorampha senectana</i>	Tansy Moth; Dingy Drill		n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures									
Moths	<i>Elachista collitella</i>	Coast Grass-miner; Pembroke Dwarf	pRDB	n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Enteucha acetosae</i>	Sorrel Dot		n/a	n/a	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Epiblema crnicicolana</i>	Fleabane Stem-borer; Fleabane Bell	pRDB	n/a	n/a	3, 4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Epischnia asteris</i>	Samphire Knot-horn		n/a	n/a	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Eucosma parvulana</i>	Saw-wort Tortrix		n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Euzophera cinerosella</i>	Wormwood-Knot-horn				5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Gynnidomorpha luridana</i>	Bartsia Straw; Bank Conch		n/a	n/a	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Helcystogramma lutatella</i>	Clay Crest	EN	n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Phalonidia curvistrigana</i>	Banded Goldenrod Straw	pRDB	n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Stigmella prunetorum</i>	Scarce Blackthorn Dot; Scarce Sloe Pigmy		n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Molluscs	<i>Truncatellina callicratis</i>	British Whorl Snail	NT	n/a	n/a	2	PA05	PA08	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Spiders	<i>Euophrys herbigrada</i>	a jumping spider	VU	n/a	n/a	1	PA05	PA08		.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Spiders	<i>Gnaphosa lugubris</i>	a ground spider	VU	n/a	n/a	1	PA05	PA08	PF05	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.
Spiders	<i>Micaria albovitata</i>	a ground spider	VU	n/a	n/a	1	PA05	PA08	PF05	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.
Spiders	<i>Cozyptila blackwallii</i>	a crab spider	EN	n/a	n/a	1	PA08	PI03	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Spiders	<i>Phaeocephus braccatus</i>	a ground spider	VU	n/a	n/a	1	PA05	PA08	PF05	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.

Micro-habitat assemblage: Invertebrates of scree and rock faces

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures									
Moths	<i>Dahlica inconspicuellla</i>	Lesser Lichen Case-bearer; Lesser Lichen Bagworm		n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moths	<i>Eudarcia richardsoni</i>	Richardson's Case-bearer		n/a	n/a	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Spiders	<i>Neon robustus</i>	a jumping spider		n/a	n/a	4	PI03	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Micro-habitat assemblage: Plants of cliffs ledges and maritime grassland

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures									
Plants	<i>Asparagus prostratus</i>	Wild Asparagus	EN	VU	n/a	1	PF05	PJ04	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Chenopodium vulvaria</i>	Stinking Goosefoot	EN	EN	n/a	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Hieracium portlandicum</i>	Portland Hawkweed	LC	EN	n/a	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Limonium dodartiforme</i>	Dorset' Sea-lavender	WL	WL	n/a	3	PF05	PJ04	PJ07	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Limonium obesifolium</i>	Durlston Sea-lavender	.	.	n/a	3	PF05	PJ07	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Limonium portlandicum</i>	Portland Sea-lavender	WL	WL	n/a	3	PF05	PJ07	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Plants	<i>Limonium recurvum</i>	Portland Bill Sea-lavender	WL	WL	n/a	3	PF05	PJ07	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Orobancha minor</i> ssp. <i>maritima</i>	Carrot Broomrape	LC	LC	n/a	3	PA08	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Phleum arenarium</i>	Sand Cat's-tail	LC	NT	n/a	2, 4	PA05	PA08	.	.	.	.	.	.
Plants	<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham Catchfly	NT	NT	n/a	2	PA05	PA08	PK04	.	.	.	.	.

Micro-habitat assemblage: Bryophytes of sheltered maritime undercliffs

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures							
Liverwort ^s	<i>Cololejeunea rossettiana</i>	Rossetti's Pouncewort	LC	n/a	n/a	4	PA05	P102	P103	PK04	.	.	.	.
Liverwort ^s	<i>Marchesinia mackaili</i>	Mackay's Pouncewort	LC	n/a	n/a	4	PA05	P102	P103	PK04	.	.	.	.
Liverwort ^s	<i>Plagiochila bifaria</i>	Killarney Featherwort	LC	n/a	n/a	4	PA05	P102	P103	PK04	.	.	.	.
Liverwort ^s	<i>Porella arboris-vitae</i>	Bitter Scalewort	LC	n/a	NT (Eur)	2	PA05	P102	P103	PK04	.	.	.	.
Liverwort ^s	<i>Porella obtusata</i>	Broad Scalewort	LC	n/a	n/a	4	PA04	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.

Micro-habitat assemblage: Bryophytes and lichens of coastal slopes

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures							
Liverwort ^s	<i>Cephaloziella baumgartneri</i>	Chalk Threadwort	EN	n/a	n/a	1	PA05	P102	P103	PK04	.	.	.	.
Liverwort ^s	<i>Southbya nigrella</i>	Blackwort	CR	n/a	n/a	1	PA05	P102	P103	PK04	.	.	.	.
Mosses	<i>Acaulon triquetrum</i>	Triangular Pygmy-moss	VU	n/a	n/a	1	PA05	PK04	.	.	.	.	.	.
Mosses	<i>Plasteurhynchium meridionale</i>	Portland Feather-moss	CR	n/a	n/a	1	PA05	PA08	PK04	.	.	.	.	.
Mosses	<i>Pterygoneurum ovatum</i>	Oval-leaved Pottia	LC	n/a	n/a	4	PA05	PA08	PK04	.	.	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Endocarpon pusillum</i>		NT	n/a	n/a	2	PA05	PA08	PK04	.	.	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Squamarina cartilaginea</i>		n/a	n/a	n/a	3, 4	PA05	PF05	P102	P103	PK04	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Thalloidima sedifolium</i>		n/a	n/a	n/a	3, 4	PA05	PA08	PF05	P102	P103	PK04	.	.

Micro-habitat assemblage: Lichens of coastal rocks and boulders

Group	Species	Common Name	IUCN GB	IUCN Eng	IUCN other	Criteria	Threats / Pressures							
Lichens	<i>Arthonia meridionalis</i>		VU	n/a	n/a	1	PA05	P102	P103	.	.	.	.	.

Lichens	<i>Caloplaca granulosa</i>		NT	n/a	n/a	2	PI02	PI03	PK04	.	.	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Diploschistes gypsaceus</i>		n/a	n/a	n/a	3, 4	PA05	PA08	PI03	PI04	.	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Gyalecta hypoleuca</i>		VU	n/a	n/a	1, 4	PA05	PF05	PI02	PI03	.	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Lecanographa atlantica</i>		VU	n/a	n/a	1, 4	PA05	PF05	PI02	PI03	PK04	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Pseudoleptogium diffractum</i>		NT	n/a	n/a	2, 4	PA05	PF05	PI02	PI03	PK04	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Roccella phycopsis</i>		NT	n/a	n/a	2, 4	PA08	PF05	PI02	PI03	PK04	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Romularia lurida</i>		n/a	n/a	n/a	4	PA05	PA08	PF05	PI02	PI03	PK04	.	.
Lichens	<i>Scytinium fragile</i>		VU	n/a	n/a	1, 4	PA05	PA08	PK04	.	.	.	.	.
Lichens	<i>Synalissa ramulosa</i>		VU	n/a	n/a	1, 4	PA05	PA08	PF05	PI02	PI03	PK04	.	.
Lichens	<i>Syncesia myrtilcola</i> (sorediate morph)		NT	n/a	n/a	2	PB05	PB08	PI03	.	.	.	.	.