

Northern Ireland Priority Habitats

September 2011

NORTHERN IRELAND PRIORITY HABITATS

NI Priority Habitat	Changes	Comments
Lowland Meadows	No change	
Calcareous Grassland	No change	
Peat and clay exposures	New habitat	
Montane Heath	No Change	
Aquifer Fed Naturally Fluctuating Water Bodies	No change	
Arable Field Margins	Revised name	Previously Cereal Field Margins
Blanket Bog	No change	
Blue mussel beds	New habitat	
Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh	No change	
Coastal saltmarsh	No change	
Coastal Sand Dunes	No change	
Coastal Vegetated Shingle	No change	
Estuarine rocky habitats	New habitat	
Eutrophic Standing Waters	No change	
Fragile sponge & anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats	New habitat	
Hedgerows	Revised name	Expanded scope
Horse mussel beds	Revised name	Previously <i>Modiolus modiolus</i> beds
Inland Rock Outcrop and Scree Habitats	New habitat	
Intertidal chalk	Revised name	Previously within Littoral and Sublittoral Chalk
Intertidal mudflats	Revised name	Previously Mudflats.
Intertidal underboulder communities	New habitat	
Limestone Pavements	No change	
Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	No change	
Lowland Fens	Revised name	Previously Fens
Lowland Heathland	No change	
Lowland Raised Bog	No change	
Maerl beds	No change	
Maritime Cliff and Slopes	No change	
Marl Lakes	No Change	

Mesotrophic Lakes	No change	
Mud habitats in deep water	No change	
Oligotrophic and Dystrophic Lakes	New habitat	
Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land	New habitat	
Ponds	New habitat	
Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pastures	No change	
Reedbeds	No change	
Rivers	New habitat.	Incorporating an existing habitat (Crowfoot Rivers)
<i>Sabellaria alveolata</i> reefs	No change	
Saline lagoons	No change	
Seagrass beds	No change	Includes both intertidal and subtidal beds
Sheltered muddy gravels	No change	
Subtidal chalk	Revised name	Previously within Littoral and Sublittoral Chalk
Subtidal sands and gravels	Revised name	Previously Sublittoral Sands and Gravels
Tide-swept channels	Revised name	Habitat expansion
Traditional Orchards	New habitat	
Upland Flushes, Fens and Swamps	New habitat	
Upland Heathland	No change	
Upland Mixed Ashwoods	No change	
Upland Oakwood	No change	
Wet Woodland	No change	
Parkland	No Change	Expanded scope