

# DEFINING AND REPORTING ON FCS IN THE UK

## EXAMPLES FROM SCOTLAND

**DUALCHAS  
NADAIR  
na h-ALBA**



**SCOTTISH  
NATURAL  
HERITAGE**



# EC Reporting Format and Guidance

## Specific structures and functions: Evaluation matrix

	Favourable ( <i>'green'</i> )	Unfavourable - Inadequate ( <i>'amber'</i> )	Unfavourable - Bad ( <i>'red'</i> )	Unknown (insufficient information to make an assessment)
<b>Specific structures and functions</b> (including typical species)	Structures and functions (including typical species) in good condition and <b><u>no significant deteriorations / pressures.</u></b>	Any other combination	<b><u>More than 25% of the area is unfavourable</u></b> as regards its specific structures and functions (including typical species)	No or insufficient reliable information available

# **Sources of information**

- Site Monitoring
- Recording Schemes
- Sponsored Surveys
- Biodiversity Schemes/Action Plans
- Books/Publications
- Expert Opinions

# **Issues with types of Information**

- **Good for range/presence**
- **More interest in species**
- **Work at Moderation valuable**
- **Need to extrapolate sites to wider environment**

# **Principles behind approaches**

- **Where good statistics use these**
- **For many features this report will be best estimates**
- **Important to state information sources – including expert opinion**
- **Detailed audit trails/appraisals being prepared**

# Examples of FCS Appraisals

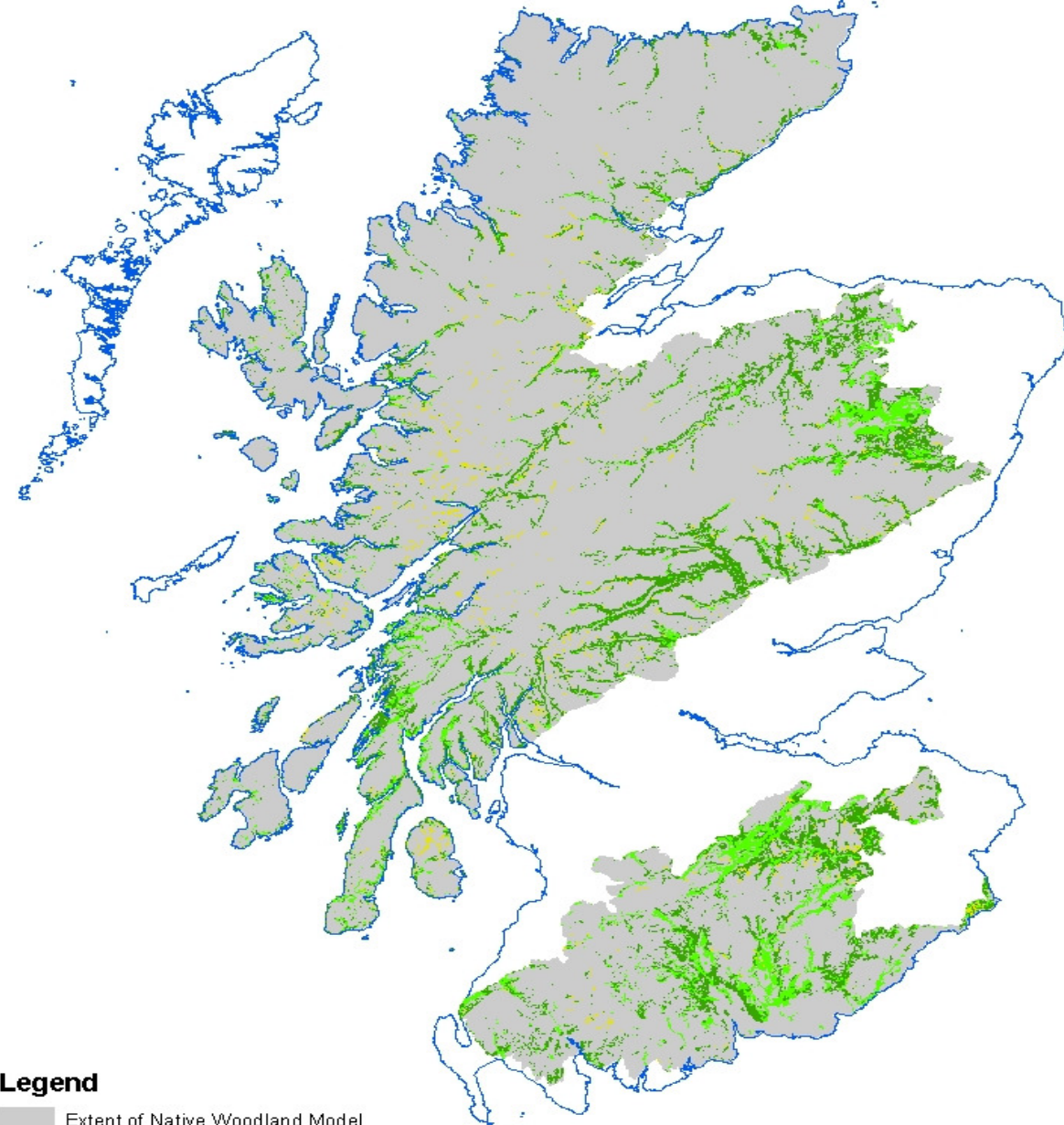
- **Habitats**

- Woodland
- Estuary
- Peatland

- **Species**

- Freshwater Mussel
- Lamprey

# Potential range of Old oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum*

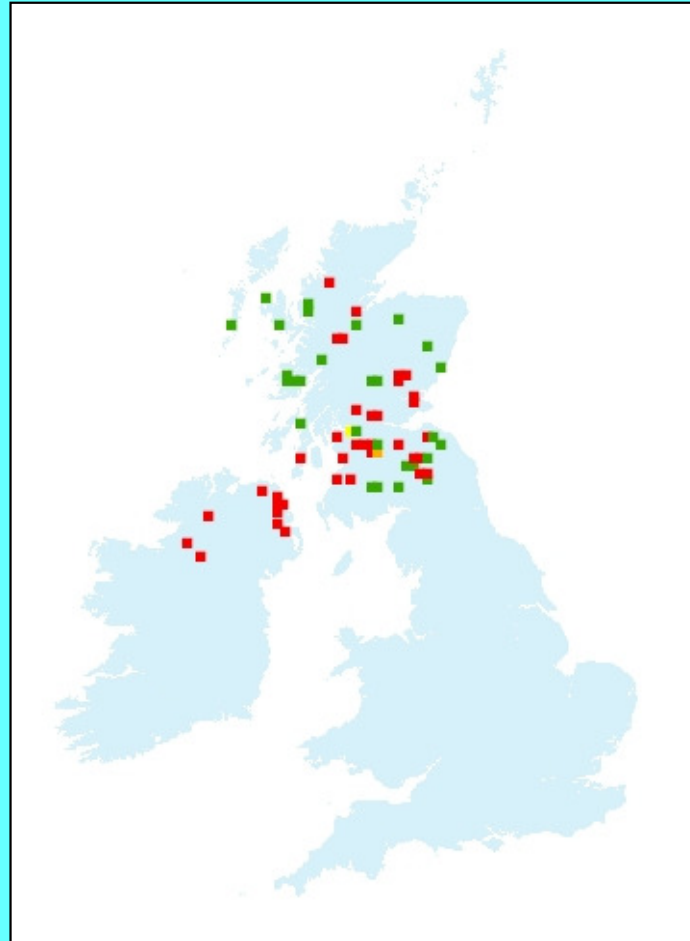


## Legend

- Extent of Native Woodland Model
- NWM core upland oak
- NWM oak, birch or mosaic
- NWM ash, oak or mosaic

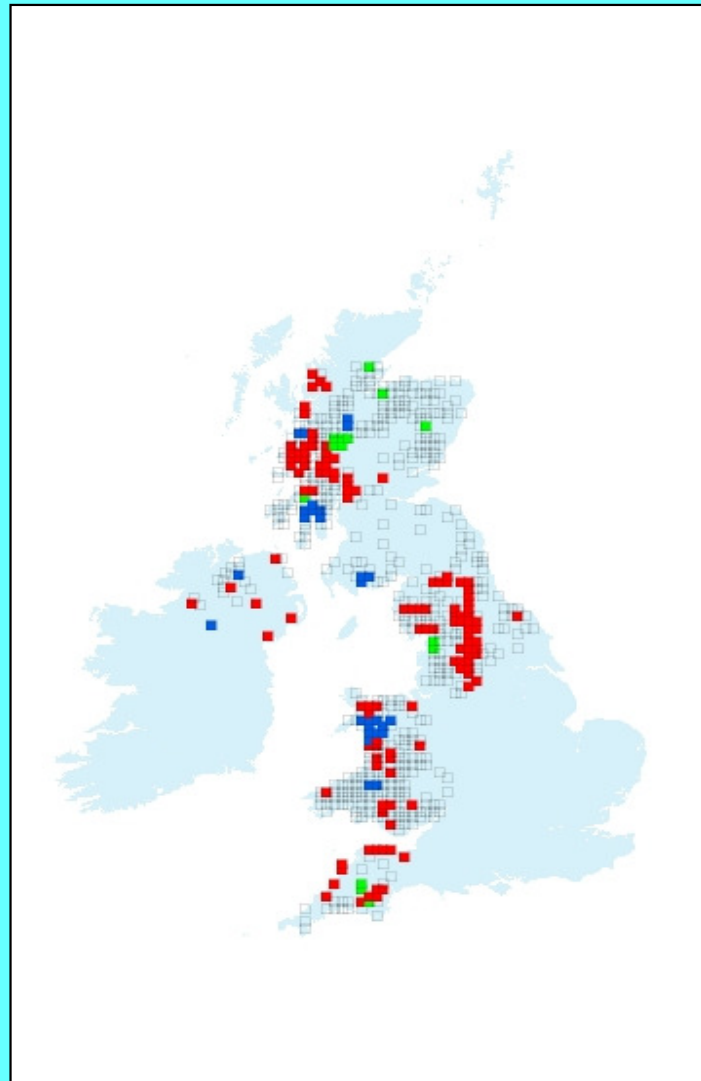
0 25,500 51,000 102,000 Meters

# CSM SSSI/ASSI summary results (H9180)





# Indicative map of current condition of H91AO



# Some principles arising from appraisals

- Where good data exist these are used
- Need to use expert judgement especially outside sites
- For many features no good baselines
- Need to create fit for purpose
- Best not to get hung up on historical/putative
- Focus mostly should be on current status and future trends/prospects

# Implications of FCS reports

- Exercise will be valuable
- Will provide baseline of knowledge
- Will allow focus on features which have real issues
- Will have potential to focus priorities
  - Research/survey
  - Management action
  - Funding
  - Legal protection (via annexes)