

COUNTY: DERBYSHIRE

SITE NAME: FOX HOLE CAVE

DISTRICT: WEST DERBYSHIRE

SITE REF: 15 WKS

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Local Planning Authority: PEAK DISTRICT JOINT PLANNING BOARD, West Derbyshire District Council

National Grid Reference: SK 100663

Area: 0.16 (ha.) 0.4 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 119

1:10,000: SK 06 NE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): –

Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

New site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

An extensive cave system containing a richly fossiliferous cave earth, which yields a variety of small vertebrates. These include ptarmigan and arctic lemmings, lion and abundant bear material. The latter, which includes a wide age range, strongly suggests that the site was used as a den by hibernating bears – a feature of particular interest. The assemblage is dated by associated artefacts to the Devensian Cold Stage of the Pleistocene Period.