

File ref:

County: Lincolnshire **Site name:** Troy Wood

District: East Lindsey

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

Local Planning Authority: East Lindsey District Council

National Grid Reference: TF 250590 **Area:** 93.2 (ha) 230.2 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1: 50 000: 122 **1: 10 000:** TF 25 NE, TF 25 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1951 **Date of Last Revision:** 1981

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986 **Date of Last Revision:** -

Other Information:

Description and Reasons for Notification:

This extensive oak woodland is one of the best surviving examples of those found on fen-edge sands and gravels in mid-Lincolnshire with a diverse flora typical of ancient sites managed traditionally as coppice with standards. Streams, ditches, earthworks and species-rich rides add to the interest of Troy Wood, notable for its heronry and wood ants *Formica rufa*.

The lowland hazel-pedunculate oak woodland is found on the dry sandy soils with birch *Betula* spp., rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and holly *Ilex aquifolium*. Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* with wavy hair grass *Deschampsia flexuosa* dominates large areas of the ground flora but elsewhere a mosaic of communities is associated with wide rides and open spaces. There is an abundance of lily-of-the-valley *Convallaria majalis*. Ferns include broad buckler *Dryopteris dilatata*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina* and the uncommon narrow buckler fern *D. carthusiana*.

In wetter areas alder *Alnus glutinosa* is abundant associated with grey willow *Salix cinerea* and alder buckthorn *Frangula alnus*. Patches of heavier, more lime-rich soils support wych elm *Ulmus glabra* and field maple *Acer campestre*. Of the many sedges, species scarce in the county include pendulous sedge *Carex pendula*, remote sedge *C. remota* and pale sedge *C. pallescens*. Woodland plants which reflect the generally acidic soil throughout are foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, climbing corydalis *Corydalis claviculata* and wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*.