

COUNTY: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

SITE NAME: HOLME PIT

DISTRICT: CITY OF NOTTINGHAM

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

Local Planning Authority: CITY OF NOTTINGHAM COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: SK 536345                      Area: 4.18 (ha.)                      (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 129                      1:10,000: SK 53 SW

Data Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1981                      Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1982                      Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

The site contains some of the best remaining areas of marsh, reedswamp and open water in Nottinghamshire and is of Regional importance.

Biology

The southern and western edges of the central pond comprise areas of species-rich marsh characterised by an abundance of such plants as common reed *Phragmites australis*, greater pond sedge *Carex riparia* and reed sweet grass *Glyceria maxima*. The marsh contains a great diversity of wetland plant species including marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*, valerian *Valeriana officinalis*, meadow rue *Thalictrum flavum* and tubular water-dropwort *Oenanthe fistulosa*. This community continues westwards beneath an area of scrub and wet woodland dominated by crack willow *Salix fragilis* and alder *Alnus glutinosa*. Holme Pit and the adjacent areas of marsh provide a valuable habitat for a variety of passage, wintering and breeding bird species, while the reedbeds are a valuable bird roosting area. Additional interest is provided along the eastern edge of the site where broad-leaved woodland has developed on a steep slope derived from strata of the Thassic Keuper Marl. Here rock exposures show very well the formation of gypsum bands and lenses within the marl sediments.