

File ref:

County: Nottinghamshire **Site name:** Mattersey Hill Marsh

District: Bassetlaw

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

Local Planning Authority: Bassetlaw District Council

National Grid Reference: SK 672874 **Area:** 4.89 (ha) 12.07 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1: 50 000: 120 **1: 10 000:** SK 68 NE

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

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1983 **Date of Last Revision:**

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

The site comprises one of the best examples of mixed marsh in Nottinghamshire and is representative of marsh communities in Central and Eastern England.

Biology:

A fine example of neutral marsh and related plant communities developed on the site of former gravel workings where the variation in soil and water depth is reflected in community diversity. Damp grassland occurs around the edge of the marsh characterised by an abundance of Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*, soft rush *Juncus effusus*, hard rush *J. inflexus*, field forget-me-not *Myosotis arvensis* and greater bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus uliginosus*. A notable element in this community is the strong population of southern marsh orchid *Orchis praetermissa*. On permanently wet soils a marsh community characterised by the abundance of toad rush *Juncus bufonius*, *J. effusus*, common spike-rush *Eleocharis palustris*, lesser water-parsnip *Berula erecta* and marsh willowherb *Epilobium palustre* occurs. Notable components of this community are colonies of grey club-rush *Scirpus tabernaemontani* and cottongrass *Eriophorum angustifolium*. There are also stands of bulrush *Typha latifolia*. A well-developed bryophyte mat covers much of the ground surface and constitutes one of the most extensive and species-rich communities of wetland mosses and liverworts recorded in Nottinghamshire; six species of bog mosses *Sphagnum spp.* have been recorded. Additional interest is provided by the occurrence of areas of willow *Salix spp.* carr and by the abundance and variety of aquatic insects, particularly dragonflies and damselflies.