

**County:** Devon      **Site Name:** Napps Cave

**District:** North Devon

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

**Local Planning Authority:** Devon County Council, North Devon District Council

**National Grid Reference:** SS 563475      **Area:** 11.7 (ha) 29.0 (ac)

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000:** 180      **1:10,000:** SS 54 NE

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

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

**Other Information:**

A new site.

In North Devon AONB.

**Description and Reasons for Notification:**

The site covers a single small cave with an entrance in an old quarry. Although less than 250m of passages are mapped, the cave is of prime importance for the very spectacular aragonite crystals whose size and abundance make them unique to Britain. Crystals up to 70 mm in length occur in radiating clusters and those in the inner chambers are in a perfect stage of preservation.

Several species of bats have been reported from this cave, including the greater and lesser horseshoe bats *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum* and *R. hipposideros*.