

File ref:

**County:** Hampshire  
**Marshes SSSI**

**Site Name:** Lincegrove and Hackett's

**Local Planning Authority:** Hampshire County Council, Eastleigh Borough Council

**National Grid Reference:** SU 486088

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000:** 196      **1:25,000:** SU 40

**Area:** 37.3 (ha) 92.16 (ac)

**Date Notified (Under 1949 Act):** 1978      **Date of Last Revision:** -

**Date Notified (Under 1981 Act):** 1984      **Date of Last Revision:** -

**Other Information:**

**Reasons for Notification:**

Mature saltmarsh on the west bank of the River Hamble estuary. The marshes are elevated to about HWMST and dissected by complex patterns of drainage creeks, their outer (river) margin terminating in 1-1.5 metre cliffs which are now eroding. The saltmarsh vegetation is dominated by sea purslane *Halimione portulacoides* and common cord-grass *Spartina anglica*, the latter species having invaded the marsh during the present century. Saltmarsh grass *Puccinellia maritima*, sea lavender *Limonium vulgare*, thrift *Armeria maritima*, sea aster *Aster tripolium* and sea club-rush *Scirpus maritimus* form a mixed community on the higher marsh levels and at the landward margin, the marshes grade either to a sea couch *Elymus pycnanthus* or reed *Phragmites australis* zone. Reed invasion is thought to have followed cessation of grazing on the marshes earlier this century. Structurally the marshes are one of the best examples of mature saltmarsh on the south coast. They are one of only eight extensive saltmarshes on the central south coast between Poole in Dorset and Pagham in West Sussex.