

COUNTY: Norfolk

SITE NAME: HILGAY HERONRY

DISTRICT: West Norfolk

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

Local Planning Authority: West Norfolk District Council

National Grid Reference: TL 635992

Area: 1.82 (ha) 4.5 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 143

1:10,560: TL 69 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): –

Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1985

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

A new site.

Reasons for Notification:

Hilgay Heronry is a small copse on the edge of the Fens which supports a nationally important breeding colony of Grey Herons *Ardea cinerea*. There is an average of about 40 occupied nests each year in the mature trees of European Larch *Larix decidua* and Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*. The nearby fenland with an extensive system of drainage dykes provides ideal feeding conditions for the birds.