

COUNTY: HEREFORD AND WORCESTER

SITE NAME: BERRINGTON POOL

DISTRICT: LEOMINSTER

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

Local Planning Authority: HEREFORD AND WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL,
Leominster District Council

National Grid Reference: SO 509630

Area: 6.79 (ha.) 16.8 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 149

1:10,000: SO 56 SW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1969

Date of Last Revision: 1975

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1983

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Owned by the National Trust.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

Berrington Pool represents one of the very few sizeable areas of open water habitat found in Herefordshire.

The banks provide a wide variety of habitat conditions ranging from carr dominated by alder *Alnus glutinosa* and willow *Salix* spp. to shallow swamp where the marginal vegetation is dominated by great reedmace *Typha latifolia* and reed-grass *Glyceria maxima*. The rarer lesser reedmace *Typha angustifolia* is also present and other characteristic species such as marsh marigold *Caltha palustris* and lady's smock *Cardamine pratensis* are abundant.

The island in the centre of the pool is well wooded with oak *Quercus robur* predominating. This woodland is the site of one of the largest heronries in the West Midlands, and one of only two in Herefordshire.