COUNTY: NORFOLK SITE NAME: EAST RUNTON CLIFFS

DISTRICT: NORTH NORFOLK

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

Local Planning Authority: North Norfolk District Council

National Grid Reference: TG 194430 to TG 205427 Area: 19.7 (ha.) 48.6 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 133 1:10,000: TG 14 SE, TG 24 SW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1954* Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1985 Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:
This site comprises part of former West Runton Cliffs* SSSI with an extension.

Description:
The foreshore at East Runton exposes pre-Cromerian (Lower Pleistocene) sediments, including successively 'Weybourne Crag', Pastonian clay conglomerate and marine shell beds, overlain in turn by marine silts (Pa II pollen zone). In the cliff can be seen spectacular rafts of chalk of glacitectonic origin (ie. ice transported) and highly deformed 'Contorted Drift'.

The marine Lower Pleistocene deposits, here of pre-Pastonian and probable Pastonian age, contain an extensive vertebrate fauna which includes marine fish, voles, carnivores, extinct horse, rhinoceros, and elephant, and (notably) several species of 'comb-antlered' deer, *Euctenoceras*. This is the best available locality for fossil vertebrates of this age.