

COUNTY: NOTTINGHAM

SITE NAME: RAINWORTH LAKES

DISTRICT: MANSFIELD/NEWARK

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

Local Planning Authority: MANSFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL, Newark District Council

National Grid Reference: SK 583 583                      Area:14.65 (ha.)                      (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 120                      1:10,000: SK 55 NE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1981                      Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1982                      Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

The site contains some of the best examples of base-poor marsh and open water plant communities remaining in Nottinghamshire and is of Regional importance.

Biology

Fine base-poor marshes and open-water plant communities are associated with a series of ponds and small lakes lying along streams which drain strata of the Triassic Bunter Pebble Beds. The base-poor marshes are characterised by the well-developed tussocks of the greater tussock-sedge *Carex paniculata* and contain such typical plant species as marsh pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris* and lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*. The adjacent pools and lakes carry a well-developed marginal vegetation which includes such species as yellow loosestrife *Lysimachia vulgaris*, while the aquatic vegetation is dominated by broad-leaved pondweed *Potamogeton natans* and several species of water-starwort *Callitriche* spp. Both marsh and open water plant communities contain a number of species which are uncommon in the East Midlands. Additional interest is provided by areas of scrub and wet and dry broad-leaved woodland on the site which provides habitat for a variety of breeding bird species.