

County: Humberside

Site Name: Broughton Alder Wood

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

Local Planning Authority: Glanford Borough Council

National Grid Reference: SE 960009 **Area:** 0.82 (ha) 2.03 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 112 **1:10,000:** SE 90 NE

First Notified: 1986

Other Information:

See also Broughton Far Wood, a mixed deciduous woodland to the north of the present site and separated from it by a commercial plantation.

Description:

Broughton Alder Wood lies in a shallow valley, which is fed by springs which arise in the adjacent pastures and forestry plantations, and drained by a small stream. Alder wood is a scarce habitat in South Humberside.

Beneath the alder *Alnus glutinosa* the wet valley-floor is dominated locally by lesser pond-sedge *Carex acutiformis*, with which meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria* and marsh marigold *Caltha palustris* are frequently associated. Several fen species occur including skullcap *Scutellaria galericulata*, yellow loosestrife *Lysimachia vulgaris* and valerian *Valeriana officinalis*; marsh valerian *V. dioica* is abundant in areas of seepage. There are also woodland species including enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, water avens *Geum rivale* and guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*.

Springs on the periphery of the wood support a carpet of mosses, together with stands of tall herbs including hairy willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*, hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris* and blunt-flowered rush *Juncus subnodulosus*.