

COUNTY: AVON

SITE NAME: NIGHTINGALE VALLEY

DISTRICT: WOODSPRING

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

Local Planning Authority: AVON COUNTY COUNCIL, Woodspring District Council

National Grid Reference: ST 449751      Area: 5.4 (ha.) 13.34 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 172      1:10,000: ST 47 NW, ST 47 NE, ST 47 SW

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1989      Date of Last Revision:

Other Information:

New site.

Geological Conservation Review Site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

Pleistocene 'plateau-deposits' here cap the high ground at the edge of the Vale of Gordano. The deposits are very variable and include 'cannon-shot' gravels, fine sandy gravels and silty gravels. A wide range of erratic lithologies have been found. Plio-Pleistocene fluvial and marine, and Pleistocene glacial environments have in the past been postulated for the origin of these sediments. The site has never been fully described, but has considerable potential importance for the understanding of the Pleistocene sequence in Avon and Somerset.