

File ref:

County: Hampshire

Site Name: Fleet Pond SSSI

Local Planning Authority: Hampshire County Council, Hart District Council

National Grid Reference: SU 822551

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 186 **1:25,000:** SU 85

Area: 47.94 (ha) 118.46 (ac)

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1951 **Date of Last Revision:** 1979

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1984 **Date of Last Revision:** -

Other Information: **Local Nature Reserve Declared:** 1977

The site is a Local Nature Reserve owned by Hart District Council.

Reasons for Notification:

Fleet Pond is an extensive, shallow lake, whose waters are generally neutral in reaction. It is flanked successively by extensive reed *Phragmites* beds, alder *Alnus* carr, and acid woodland dominated by oak *Quercus* and birch *Betula*. Though suffering from recent silting, Fleet Pond supports a rich aquatic flora, including a number of locally distributed or rare species. The aquatic invertebrate fauna, particularly that associated with the pond margins, is also rich and abundant. The site supports substantial breeding populations of reed warblers *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* and some other wetland birds and is an autumn and winter wildfowl resort for substantial numbers of both surface feeding and diving ducks. Extensive shallow lakes of this kind are rare in south-central England and this example possesses a diverse flora and fauna.