

**County:** Devon

**Site Name:** Roundham Head

**District:** Torbay

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

**Local Planning Authority:** Devon County Council  
Torbay Borough Council

**National Grid Reference:** SX 898601      **Area:** 4.2 (ha) 10.4 (ac)

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000:** 202      **1:10,000:** SX 86 SE, SX 85 NE

**Date Notified (Under 1949 Act):** 1974      **Date of Last Revision:** 1976

**Date Notified (Under 1981 Act):** 1986      **Date of Last Revision:** –

**Other Information:**

The site is mostly part of previous Torbay Cliffs SSSI, which is otherwise deleted.

**Description and Reasons for Notification:**

This is the type section of the Permian Tor Bay Breccias. These here include a variety of fluvial breccias, in which types formed during ephemeral sheet floods are the most abundant. On the south side of the headland are interbedded aeolian sands showing palaeowind directions towards the north-west. This contrasts with the directions of fluvial transport, deduced from sedimentary structures such as imbrication and cross-bedding in the breccias, which was towards the south-east. A key site for demonstrating Permian sedimentary environments.