

COUNTY: DEVON      SITE NAME: WILMINGTON QUARRY

DISTRICT: EAST DEVON

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

Local Planning Authority: DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL, East Devon District Council

National Grid Reference: SY 209997      Area: 22.0 (ha.) 54.3 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 192      1:10,000: SY 29 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1952      Date of Last Revision: –

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

Other Information:

In East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. In Devon County Structure Plan Area for Mineral Working and Mineral Consultation Area.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

The type locality and at present the only exposure of the Cenomanian Wilmington Sands. These sands fill a depression in the underlying Upper Greensand, and are a quartz sand facies laterally equivalent to the lowest part of the Cenomanian Limestone seen on the coast. The sands and particularly the 'Grizzle' (limestone overlying the sands) yield a large and abundant shelly fauna that includes crab carapaces, unknown from other localities. A key site for its rich fauna and for its bearing on facies changes in the Upper Cretaceous.