

File ref:

**County:** Lincolnshire **Site name:** Linwood Warren

**District:** West Lindsey

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

**Local Planning Authority:** West Lindsey District Council

**National Grid Reference:** TF 132876 **Area:** 26.0 (ha) 64.2 (ac)

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1: 50 000:** 122 **1: 10 000:** TF 18 SW

**Date Notified (Under 1949 Act):** 1966 **Date of Last Revision:**

**Date Notified (Under 1981 Act):** 1985 **Date of Last Revision:**

**Other Information:**

The whole of the site is owned and managed as a county trust reserve.

**Reasons for Notification:**

This site is one of the few remaining areas typical of heathland once found over large areas of Lincolnshire. The mosaic of habitats support locally scarce species.

The wet heath areas are dominated by Sphagnum with cotton grass *Eriophorum angustifolium* and the marshy grassland by rushes and sedges, notably the oval sedge *Carex ovalis*. Marsh pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris* and lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula* are found at the edge of open water together with skullcap *Scutellaria galericulata* and ragged robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi*.

The dry heathland is characterised by ling *Calluna vulgaris* with wavy-hair grass *Deschampsia flexuosa*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile* and purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea* and cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix* and bog myrtle *Vaccinium myrtillus*, for which this is the only site in Lincolnshire. Areas dominated by bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* also include lily-of-the-valley *Convallaria majalis*. Both open ground and scrub are notable for hair mosses *Polytrichum spp.* and provide the only site in Lincolnshire for the lichen Icelandic Moss *Cetraria islandica*. The lichen community is exceptional and also includes *Cladonia polydactyla* and *Cladonia glauca*.

Semi-natural broad-leaved woodland is either mixed oak *Quercus robur* and birch *Betula pendula* or includes willows *Salix spp.* or Scot's pine *Pinus sylvestris*. The birch woodland is dominated by bramble *Rubus fruticosus* and broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*.

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## **Linwood Warren (cont...)**

Notably amongst the vertebrates are badgers, adders and slow worms. The diversity and quality of the breeding community of birds is of county importance. It includes woodcock, tawny and long-eared owls, woodpeckers, tree pipits, a variety of warblers and more recently sparrowhawk. Beetles and moths are well recorded and include both those associated with heathland and locally scarce species.