

SITE NOTIFIED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE ON 30 MARCH 1992

COUNTY: DERBYSHIRE SITE NAME: RIVER DERWENT AT HATHERSAGE

DISTRICT: HIGH PEAK SITE REF: 15 W9L

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

Local Planning Authority: PEAK PARK JOINT PLANNING BOARD, High Peak Borough Council

National Grid Reference: From SK 209822 Area: 9.22 (ha.) 22.78 (ac.)
To SK 227807

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000 110 1:10,000: SK 28 SW

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

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1992 Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:
New site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

This reach of the River Derwent is a typical example of downstream channel adjustment to headwater impoundment, discharge regulation and sediment load reduction. The morphological response of the river is illustrated by the development of compound channel cross-sections. These reflect the formation of a discontinuous flat bench, of largely depositional origin and bounded by marked breaks of slope, which has developed within the main channel and reduced its capacity by an estimated 40%. The bench occurs only below the confluence of the River Noe with the River Derwent, implying that the introduction of sediment by the tributary into the regulated main stream, and the deposition of lateral bars, may be the significant factor controlling bench formation. Dendrochronology (measurement of tree-ring growth) has been used to estimate the minimum age of the bench features as 51 years.