

County: Devon **Site Name:** Mill Rock

District: North Devon

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, North Devon District Council

National Grid Reference: SS 455431 **Area:** 0.16 (ha) 0.4 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 180 **1:10,000:** SS 44 SE

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

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1989 **Date of Last Revision:** –

Other Information:

A new site. Listed as being of national importance in the Geological Conservation Review. In North Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Part owned by the National Trust.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

Scattered well-preserved fragments of Upper Devonian fish occur here in a tuff (a volcanic ash band) and in associated shales within the Pickwell Down Sandstones. *Bothriolepis*, *Holoptychius*, *Polyplocodus* and cf *Holomena* have been recorded from the site. The occurrence of fish remains within a tuff band is geologically unusual, and the palaeoenvironmental and ecological relationships deduced from study of this site make it a locality of considerable importance for understanding the ecological preferences of fossil fish.