

Site Name: Thatto Heath Dam

Site Area: 0.93 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ496939

Date of Designation: April 1994 **District:** St. Helens

Date of Last Revision: December 2003 **Local Site Number:** 98

CITATION: A disused reservoir with swamp and marginal habitats also used for angling. Notable for the presence of the aquatic plant Hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*).

APPRAISAL: This site has been evaluated against the guidelines approved by the Council for selection of Local Sites. The site's evaluation against the guidelines is set out below.

Guideline		Comment
HABITATS		
H1;	Rarity	1 priority BAP habitat; 1 priority Habitats Directive habitat; 2 regionally important habitats.
H2;	Diversity	12 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	--
H4.	Isolation	--
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	1 regionally important species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 59 plant species.
SP3;	Naturalness	93.22% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP4.	Nationally Rare	--
ANIMALS		
General		
SP5;	Rare/priority	--
Birds		
B1;	Non-breeding population	--
B2;	Breeding population	--
B3;	Regional rare/scare	--
B4;	Breeding assemblage	--
B5.	Assemblage, breeding, wintering, passage.	--
Dragonflies		
Od1.	Breeding	--
Od2.	Regional rare/scarce	--
Butterflies		
Bf1;	Region rare breeding	--
Bf2.	Breeding assemblage	--
Amphibians		
A1;	Rarity	--
A2.	Exceptional populations	--
Reptiles		
R2;	Exceptional population	--
Bats		
Bat1;	Roost	--
Bat2.	Assemblage	--
Mammals		
Mam1.	Breeding	--

SUMMARY: The combination of these factors has led to this site being identified as a Local Site.

NOTE: Validated data from 1981 to December 2003 have been used in this assessment. Other data may become available to support this designation.

Status of features of nature conservation importance

Habitats

1 Priority BAP habitat	Swamp
1 Priority Habitat Directive habitat	Swamp
2 Regionally important habitats (North West Biodiversity Audit)	Swamp Standing water

Plants

1 Regionally important species (North West Biodiversity Audit)	Rigid Hornwort (<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>)
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URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Thatto Heath Dam

PLANNING SECTION

Date: 22 January 2008

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Grid Ref: 349583,393905

Drawn: