

EC Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora

Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Name: West Midlands Mosses
Unitary Authority/County: Cheshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire
SAC status: Designated on 1 April 2005
Grid reference: SK026282
SAC EU code: UK0013595
Area (ha): 184.18
Component SSSI: Abbots Moss SSSI, Chartley Moss SSSI, Clarepool Moss SSSI, Wybunbury Moss SSSI

Site description:

The West Midlands Mosses comprise four sites supporting large basin mires which have developed as quaking bogs, known as Schwingmoors, together with a variety of associated hollows and pools showing various types and stages of mire development. This complexity of habitats gives rise to a diverse assemblage of associated plants and invertebrates of national significance, in particular at Clarepool Moss where the water quality is unusual for this type of site in being base-rich.

Qualifying habitats: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following habitats listed in Annex I:

- Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds. (Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds)
- Transition mires and quaking bogs. (Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface)

This citation relates to a site entered in the Register of European Sites for Great Britain.

Register reference number: UK0013595

Date of registration: 14 June 2005

Signed: *Trevor Salmon*

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs