

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

Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Name: Skipwith Common
Unitary Authority/County: North Yorkshire
SAC status: Designated on 1 April 2005
Grid reference: SE668362
SAC EU code: UK0030276
Area (ha): 295.20
Component SSSI: Skipwith Common SSSI

Site description:

The wet heath at Skipwith Common is the most extensive of its type in the north of England. The *Erica tetralix* – *Sphagnum compactum* community is dominated by cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix* and purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*. There is a small population of marsh gentian *Gentiana pneumonanthe*. The wet heath is part of transitions from open water, fen, reed and swamp to dry heaths and other habitats. The dry heath element is a representative of *Calluna vulgaris* – *Deschampsia flexuosa* heath dominated by heather *Calluna vulgaris*.

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:

- European dry heaths
- Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix*. (Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath)

This citation relates to a site entered in the Register of European Sites for Great Britain.
Register reference number: UK0030276
Date of registration: 14 June 2005
Signed: *Trevor Salmon*
On behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment,
Food and Rural Affairs