

Reasons for recommendation as a candidate Special Area of Conservation

Area name: **Pevensy Levels**

Administrative area: East Sussex

Component SSSI: **Pevensy Levels SSSI**

This area has been recommended as a candidate Special Area of Conservation (SAC) because it contains species which are rare or threatened within a European context. The SSSI citation describes the special interests for which the site was notified in the British context. The interests for which the site was selected as SSSI may differ from the interests selected in a European context.

The species for which the area has been recommended as a candidate SAC is listed below. The reasons for their selection are listed, together with a brief description of the habitats and species as they typically occur across the UK. This area contains the interests described although it may not contain all the typical features.

The area is considered to have a high diversity of habitats/species of European importance.

Interest(s) submitted to the European Commission

European interest(s):

1. Little whirlpool ram's-horn snail *Anisus vorticulus*

- **for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.**

Anisus vorticulus occurs across a range of sites in southern and eastern England. Pevensy Levels is a large and expansive grazing marsh that supports *Anisus vorticulus* in both a wide spatial distribution and in good population density classes. It is recorded across a number of the levels, including at Hooe level, Mankey level, Glynleigh and Horse Eye Levels. The western areas of the Hooe Levels should be regarded as one of the richest locations for this species within an often linked complex of ditches and channels. The Pevensy Levels, with an occupation of some 38% of sampled ditches, supports the largest known population of *Anisus vorticulus* in the UK.

For agency use only:

Date issued: _____

Reference number or date of map: _____