

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

## Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

**Name:** Holnest  
**Unitary Authority/County:** Dorset  
**SAC status:** Designated on 10 December 2009  
**Grid reference:** ST667106  
**SAC EU code:** UK0030350  
**Area (ha):** 54.83  
**Component SSSI:** Holnest

### Site description:

Holnest encompasses around 40 ponds set in a matrix of terrestrial habitats, comprising areas of semi-improved grassland, scrub, associated semi-natural habitats and woodland bounded by fences and hedgerows. The ponds exhibit a range of sizes, profiles and origins, and include some recently-created ornamental ponds as well as traditional farm ponds. A large population of **Great crested newts** *Triturus cristatus* is present, with over 200 individuals having been recorded at one pond in spring 2003. The woodland and field boundaries provide ideal hibernation habitat.

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

- Great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*

This citation relates to a site entered in the Register of European Sites for Great Britain.  
Register reference number: UK0030350  
Date of registration: 10 December 2009

Signed: *S G Hopkins*  
On behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment,  
Food and Rural Affairs