

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

Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Name: Helbeck and Swindale Woods
Unitary Authority/County: Cumbria
SAC status: Designated on 1 April 2005
Grid reference: NY784164
SAC EU code: UK0030167
Area (ha): 136.38
Component SSSI: Helbeck Wood SSSI, Swindale Wood SSSI

Site description:

Mixed woodlands have developed here over limestone, with crags, blocks and fine scree showing through in parts. In the Swindale section there is a steep-sided gorge with cliffs up to 30m high. The wood is predominantly ash *Fraxinus excelsior* with some elm *Ulmus* sp. and has a rich ground flora, including the helleborines *Cephalanthera longifolia*, *Epipactis atrorubens* and *E. helleborine*, and wood barley *Hordelymus europaeus*.

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:

- *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines. (Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes)*

Annex I priority habitats are denoted by an asterisk (*).

This citation relates to a site entered in the Register of European Sites for Great Britain.
Register reference number: UK0030167
Date of registration: 14 June 2005
Signed: *Trew Salmon*
On behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs