

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

Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Name: Cannock Extension Canal
Unitary Authority/County: Walsall, Staffordshire
SAC status: Designated on 1 April 2005
Grid reference: SK020058
SAC EU code: UK0012672
Area (ha): 5.47
Component SSSI: Cannock Extension Canal SSSI

Site description:

Cannock Extension Canal in central England is an example of anthropogenic, lowland habitat supporting floating water-plantain *Luronium natans* at the eastern limit of the plant's natural distribution in England. A very large population of the species occurs in the Canal, which has a diverse aquatic flora and rich dragonfly fauna, indicative of good water quality. The low volume of boat traffic on this terminal branch of the Wyrley and Essington Canal has allowed open-water plants, including floating water-plantain, to flourish, while depressing the growth of emergents.

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:

- Floating water-plantain *Luronium natans*

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

Register reference number: UK0012672

Date of registration: 14 June 2005

Signed: *Trevor Salmon*

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