

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

## Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

**Name:** Blean Complex  
**Unitary Authority/County:** Kent  
**SAC status:** Designated on 1 April 2005  
**Grid reference:** TR111603  
**SAC EU code:** UK0013697  
**Area (ha):** 520.62  
**Component SSSI:** Church Woods (Blean) SSSI, East Blean Woods SSSI, Ellenden Wood SSSI

### Site description:

At Blean in south-east England, hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* coppice occurs interspersed with pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* stands and introduced sweet chestnut *Castanea sativa*. Great wood-rush *Luzula sylvatica* is locally dominant in the woodland, and the characteristic greater stitchwort *Stellaria holostea* is found in more open patches. The stands have traditionally been managed as coppice, and are one of the British strongholds for the heath fritillary butterfly *Mellicta athalea*.

**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:

- Sub-Atlantic and medio-European oak or oak-hornbeam forests of the *Carpinion betuli*. (Oak-hornbeam forests)

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

Register reference number: UK0013697

Date of registration: 14 June 2005

Signed: *Trew Salmon*

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