

Site Name: Mine Spoil, West of Weathercock Hill

Site Area: 7.91 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ544999

Date of Designation: December 2003 **District:** St. Helens

Date of Last Revision: N/A **Local Site Number:** 19

CITATION: A disused mine tip which is now being colonised by plants. The spoil tip contains a variety of ephemeral, woodland and wetland habitats.

APPRAISAL: This site has been evaluated against the guidelines approved by the Council for selection of Local Sites. The site's evaluation against the guidelines is set out below.

Guideline		Comment
HABITATS		
H1;	Rarity	1 priority BAP habitat; 1 priority Habitats Directive habitat.
H2;	Diversity	11 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	--
H4.	Isolation	--
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	--
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 23 plant species.
SP3;	Naturalness	92% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP4.	Nationally Rare	--
ANIMALS		
General		
SP5;	Rare/priority	--
Birds		
B1;	Non-breeding population	--
B2;	Breeding population	--
B3;	Regional rare/scare	--
B4;	Breeding assemblage	--
B5.	Assemblage, breeding, wintering, passage.	--
Dragonflies		
Od1.	Breeding	--
Od2.	Regional rare/scarce	--
Butterflies		
Bf1;	Region rare breeding	--
Bf2.	Breeding assemblage	--
Amphibians		
A1;	Rarity	--
A2.	Exceptional populations	--
Reptiles		
R1;	Population of native species	--
R2;	Exceptional population	--
Bats		
Bat1;	Roost	--
Bat2.	Assemblage	--
Mammals		
Mam1.	Breeding	--

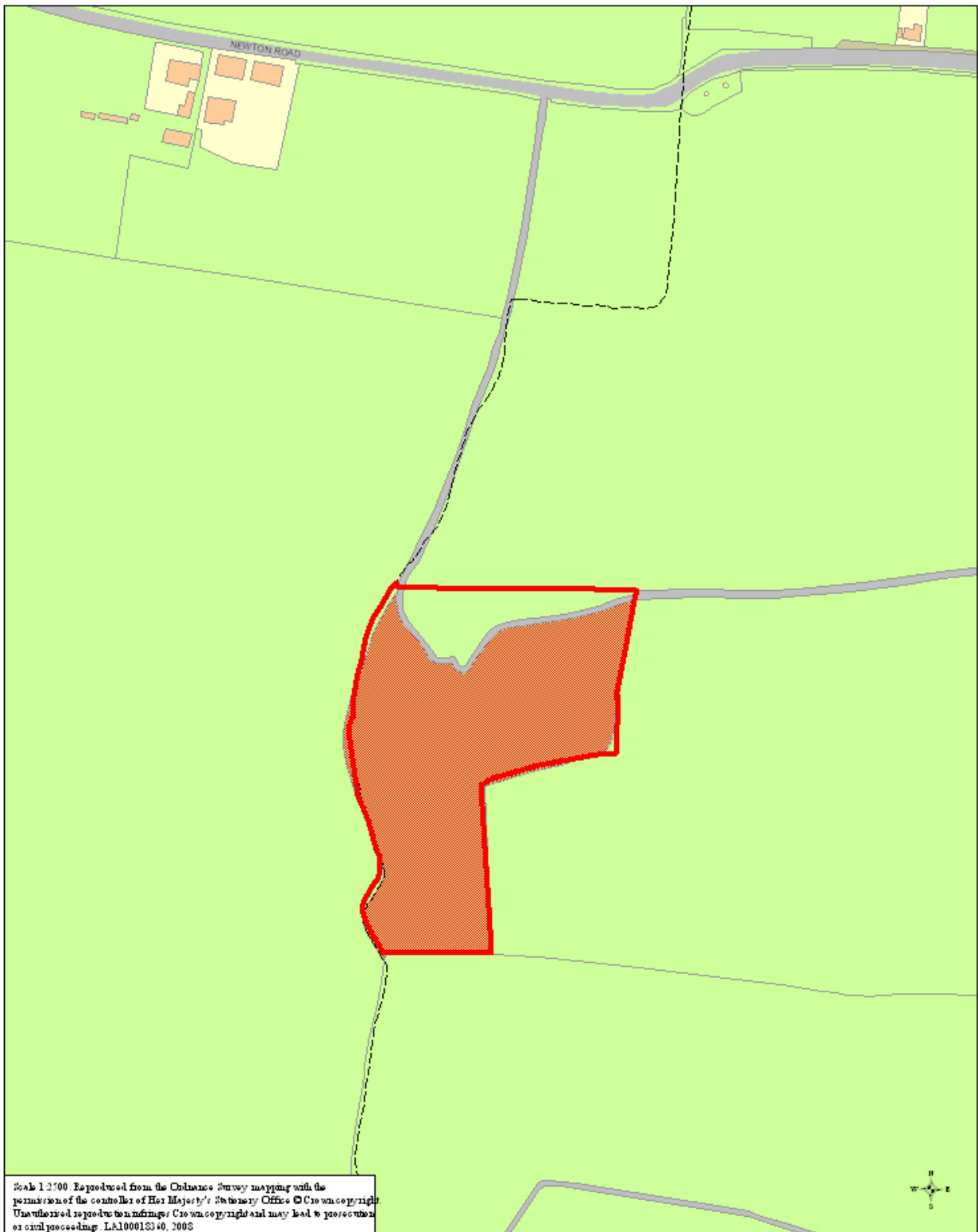
SUMMARY: The combination of these factors has led to this site being identified as a Local Site.


NOTE: Validated data from 1981 to December 2003 have been used in this assessment. Other data may become available to support this designation.

Status of features of nature conservation importance

Habitats

1 Priority BAP habitats	Single species dominant swamp
1 Priority Habitat Directive habitats	Single species dominant swamp



 <p>St. Helens Metropolitan Borough Council</p>	<p>URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Mine, spoil, west of Weathercock Hill</p>	<p>PLANNING SECTION</p> <p>Date: 21 January 2008</p> <p>Scale 1:2500</p> <p>Grid Ref: 354409,399921</p> <p>Drawn:</p>