

**Site Name:** Carr Mill Dam

**Site Area:** 31.29 hectares      **National Grid Reference:** SJ526981

**Date of Designation:** December 1986      **District:** St. Helens

**Date of Last Revision:** December 2003      **Local Site Number:** 34

**CITATION:** Originally a mill dam but enlarged in the 1820s to provide water to the St. Helens Canal system. The dam supports a range of aquatic and marginal habitats and species as well as acid grassland and woodland.

**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
<b>HABITATS</b>		
H1;	Rarity	3 priority BAP habitats; 3 priority Habitats Directive habitats; 4 regionally important habitats.
H2;	Diversity	15 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	--
H4.	Isolation	--
<b>PLANTS</b>		
SP1;	Rarity	1 nationally rare species; 1 WCA_SC8 plant species; 2 species of conservation concern; 3 regionally important species; 29 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 253 plant species. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species.
SP3;	Naturalness	87.4% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP4.	Nationally Rare	<i>Rorippa islandica</i> (to be confirmed)
<b>ANIMALS</b>		
General	Rare/priority	--
SP5;		
Birds		
B1;	Non-breeding population	--
B2;	Breeding population	--
B3;	Regional rare/scare	Guideline met – Kingfisher.
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	Guideline met – Great crested newt.
A2.	Exceptional populations	--
Reptiles		
R1;	Population of native species.	--
R2;	Exceptional population	--
Bats		
Bat1;	Roost	Guideline met – Daubenton's bat.
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

##### **3 Priority BAP habitats**

Marginal vegetation  
Swamp  
Unimproved acid grassland

##### **3 Priority Habitat Directive habitats**

Marginal vegetation  
Swamp  
Unimproved acid grassland

##### **4 Regionally Important habitats (North West Biodiversity Audit)**

Marshy grassland  
Standing water  
Swamp  
Unimproved acid grassland

#### Plants

##### **1 Nationally Rare species**

Northern Yellow-cress (*Rorippa islandica*) – to be confirmed

##### **1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 8 species**

English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

##### **2 Species of conservation concern (UK Biodiversity Action Plan Species)**

English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)  
Heath cudweed (*Gnaphalium sylvaticum*)

##### **3 Regionally important species (North West Biodiversity Audit)**

English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)  
Heath cudweed (*Gnaphalium sylvaticum*)  
Small-flowered cranesbill (*Geranium pusillum*)

##### **29 Locally rare species**

A moss (*Amblystegium tenax*)  
A liverwort (*Aneura pinguis*)  
A moss (*Aulacomnium androgynum*)  
A moss (*Bryum pseudotriquetrum* agg.)  
A liverwort (*Calypogeia arguta*),  
A liverwort (*Calypogeia fissa*)  
A liverwort (*Calypogeia muelleriana*)  
Large Bitter-cress (*Cardamine amara*)  
A liverwort (*Cephalozia bicuspidata*)  
A Liverwort (*Chiloscyphus polyanthas*),  
Scented liverwort (*Conocephalum conicum*)  
A moss (*Cryphaea heteromalla*),  
A moss (*Fissidens taxifolius*)  
Heath Cudweed (*Gnaphalium sylvaticum*)  
A moss (*Grimmia pulvinata*)  
A moss (*Hypnum cupressiforme* var. *cupressiforme*)  
A liverwort (*Lunularia cruciata*)  
A liverwort (*Metzgeria fruticulosa*)  
Spiked Water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)  
A moss (*Orthotrichum anomalum*)  
A moss (*Plagiomnium undulatum*)  
A moss (*Plagiothecium undulatum*)  
A Hair-moss (*Pogonatum aloides*)  
A moss (*Rhizomnium punctatum*),  
A moss (*Rhynchostegium riparioides*)  
A liverwort (*Scapania undulate*)  
A moss (*Tetraphis pellucida*)

A moss (*Ulota crispa* var. *crispa*)

A moss (*Ulota phyllantha*)

Animals

**Birds**

**1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 1**

Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)

**Amphibians**

**1 Habitats Directive 1994 species**

Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*)

**1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 5 species**

Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*)

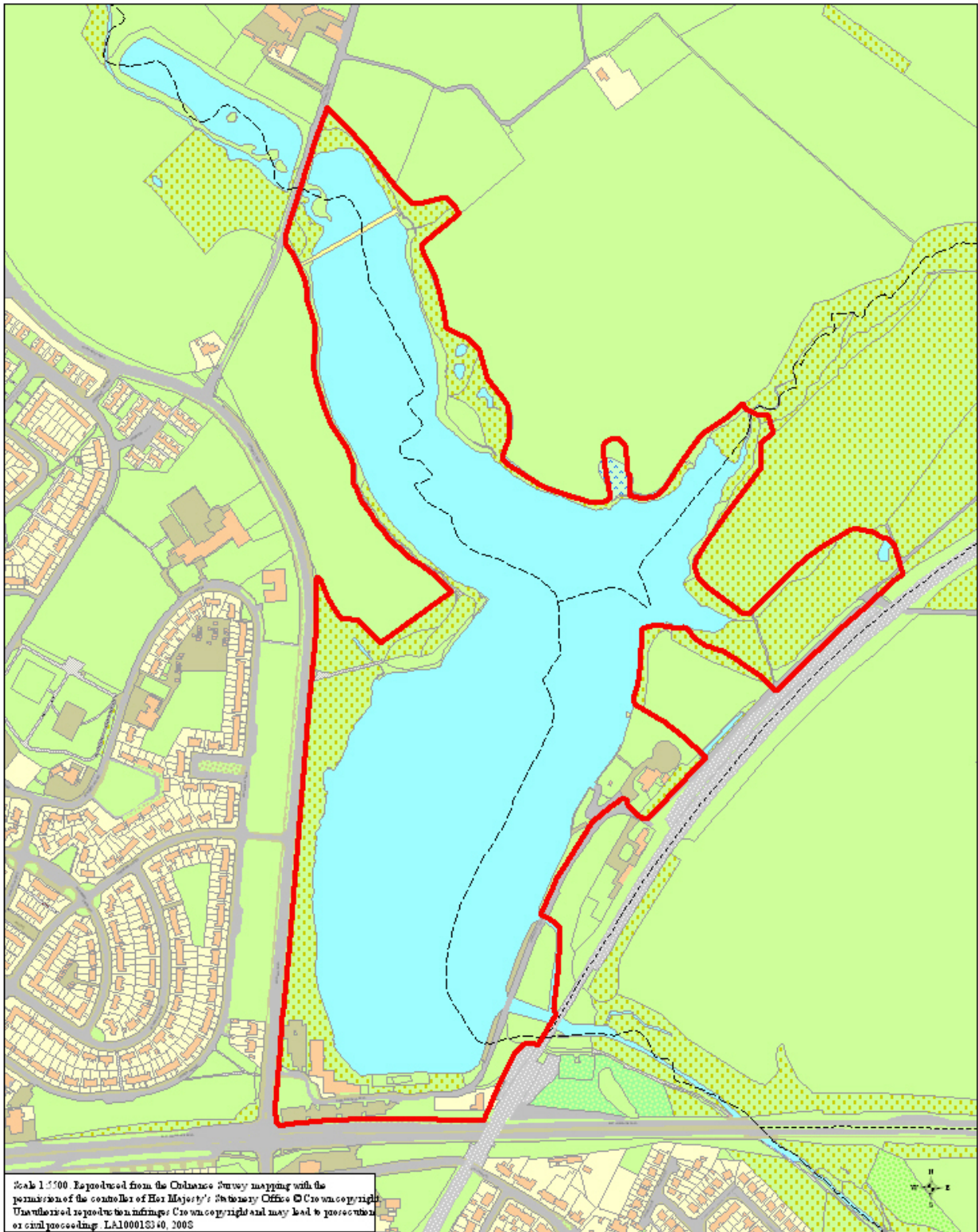
**Mammals**

**1 Habitats Directive 1994 species**

Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*)

**1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 5 species**

Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*)



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URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

**Carr Mill Dam**

PLANNING SECTION

Date: 23 January 2008

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Grid Ref: 352704,398139

Drawn: