

Site Name: Hill Top Farm Woodland

Site Area: 1.66 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ488987

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

Date of Last Revision: N/A **Local Site Number:** 25

CITATION: A Scots pine dominated plantation which provides important bird breeding habitat.

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; H2; H3; H4.	Rarity Diversity Nearness Isolation	-- 2 habitats recorded. 16 sites within 1Km. --
PLANTS		
SP1; SP2; SP3; SP4.	Rarity Diversity Naturalness Nationally Rare	1 WCA_SC8 plant species; 1 species of conservation concern; 1 regionally important species. Total of 9 plant species. 66.7% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered. --
ANIMALS		
General SP5; Birds B1; B2; B3; B4; B5. Dragonflies Od1. Od2. Butterflies Bf1; Bf2. Amphibians A1; A2. Reptiles R1; R2; Bats Bat1; Bat2. Mammals Mam1.	Rare/priority Non-breeding population Breeding population Regional rare/scare Breeding assemblage Assemblage, breeding, wintering, passage. Breeding Regional rare/scarce Region rare breeding Breeding assemblage Rarity Exceptional populations Population of native species. Exceptional population Roost Assemblage Breeding	-- -- -- Guideline met – Willow tit, Turtle Dove. Guideline met – woodland assemblage. -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- --

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 concern.

Plants

1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 8 species	English bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>)
1 Species of conservation concern (UK Biodiversity Action Plan)	English bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>)
1 Regionally important species (North West Biodiversity Audit)	English bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>)

Animals

Birds

2 North Merseyside rare or scarce species	Turtle dove (<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>) Willow tit (<i>Parus montanus</i>)
--	--

