

**Site Name:** Eccleston Top Dam

**Site Area:** 2.27 hectares      **National Grid Reference:** SJ489951

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

**Date of Last Revision:** N/A      **Local Site Number:** 76

**CITATION:** A disused industrial dam providing aquatic habitat for locally rare aquatic species. The dam is surrounded by acid and neutral grassland, both nationally important 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.

<b>Guideline</b>		<b>Comment</b>
<b>HABITATS</b>		
H1;	Rarity	2 priority BAP habitats; 2 priority Habitats Directive habitats; 3 regionally important habitats.
H2;	Diversity	7 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	31 sites within 1Km.
H4.	Isolation	--
<b>PLANTS</b>		
SP1;	Rarity	2 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 57 plant species.
SP3;	Naturalness	89.47% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP4.	Nationally Rare	--
<b>ANIMALS</b>		
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

##### **2 Priority BAP habitats**

Unimproved acid grassland  
Unimproved neutral grassland

##### **2 Priority Habitat Directive habitats**

Unimproved acid grassland  
Unimproved neutral grassland

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

Unimproved acid grassland  
Unimproved neutral grassland  
Standing water - pond

#### Plants

##### **2 Locally rare species**

Spiked Water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)  
Greater Duckweed (*Spirodela polyrhiza*)



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**PLANNING SECTION**  
 Date: 22 January 2008  
 Scale 1:2000  
 Grid Ref: 348919, 395103  
 Drawn:

**URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT**  
**Eccleston Top Dam**

