Site Name: Prescot Reservoirs Nos 3 & 4

Site Area: 44.25 hectares National Grid Reference: SJ470938

Date of Designation: December 2003 District: St. Helens

Date of Last Revision: N/A Local Site Number: 99

CITATION: This site comprises of two reservoirs and a disused dry reservoir. The disused reservoir and

areas surrounding reservoirs 3 & 4 have now been colonised by a diverse and species rich grassland including species such as, Northern Marsh orchid and Common Spotted orchid.

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; 2 regionally important habitats; 1 locally uncommon habitat.
H2;	Diversity	11 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	
H4.	Isolation	
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	1 WCA_SC8 plant species; 1 species of conservation concern; 2 regionally important species; 2 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 95 plant species.
SP3;	Naturalness	92.6% 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. Butterflies	Regional rare/scarce	
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	
	<u> </u>	

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 habitat Unimproved neutral grassland

1 Priority Habitat Directive habitat Unimproved neutral grassland

2 Regionally Important habitats

Unimproved neutral grassland

(North West Biodiversity Audit) Marshy grassland

1 Locally uncommon habitat Wet heath / acid grassland mosaic

Plants

1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 8 species English Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

1 Species of conservation concern English Bluebell (Hyacinthoides non-script)

2 Regionally important species Northern Marsh-orchid (*Dactylorhiza purpurella*)

English Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

2 Locally rare species Common Spotted Orchid hybrid (*Dactylorhiza*

fuchsii x purpurella)

Ragged Robin (Lychnis flos-cuculi)

