

**Site Name:** Wood Pit Tip, Grassland

**Site Area:** 4.68 hectares      **National Grid Reference:** SJ568961

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

**Date of Last Revision:** December 2003      **Local Site Number:** 60

**CITATION:** This site has developed around the foot of a disused slag heap and comprises of an extensive area of species rich marshy grassland which surrounds a pond and associated marginal vegetation. The site supports a number of regionally and locally important wetland species.

**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	1 priority BAP habitats; 1 priority Habitats Directive habitats; 3 regionally important habitats.
H2;	Diversity	10 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	--
H4.	Isolation	33 sites within 1Km.
<b>PLANTS</b>		
SP1;	Rarity	4 regionally important species; 6 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 150 plant species. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species.
SP3;	Naturalness	90.7% 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

<b>1 Priority BAP habitats</b>	Unimproved acid grassland
<b>1 Priority Habitat Directive habitats</b>	Unimproved acid grassland
<b>3 Regionally Important habitats</b>	Unimproved acid grassland Marshy grassland Standing water

#### Plants

<b>4 Regionally important species</b>	Greater Pond-sedge ( <i>Carex riparia</i> ) Fine-leaved Sheep's-fescue ( <i>Festuca filiformis</i> ) Ploughman's spikenard ( <i>Inula conyzae</i> ) Northern Dock( <i>Rumex longifolius</i> )
<b>6 Locally rare species</b>	Fine-leaved Sheep's-fescue ( <i>Festuca filiformis</i> ) Ploughman's spikenard ( <i>Inula conyzae</i> ) Bulbous Rush ( <i>Juncus bulbosus</i> ) Northern Dock( <i>Rumex longifolius</i> ) Marsh Ragwort ( <i>Senecio aquaticus</i> ) A Sphagnum moss ( <i>Sphagnum squarrosum</i> )

