

EC Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora

Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Name: Bracket's Coppice
Unitary Authority/County: Dorset
SAC status: Designated on 1 April 2005
Grid reference: ST516071
SAC EU code: UK0030095
Area (ha): 53.66
Component SSSI: Bracket's Coppice and Ryewater Farm SSSI

Site description:

This site contains oak *Quercus* sp. and ash *Fraxinus excelsior* woodland, wooded stream valleys, herb-rich grassland and fen-meadow. Peaty mineral soils support fen-meadow comprising purple moor-grass *Molinia careulea* and tufted hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa* interspersed with herbs characteristic of this community such as meadow thistle *Cirsium dissectum*, bugle *Ajuga reptans*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica* and greater bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus uliginosus*. The woodland supports several bat species, including a maternity colony of Bechstein's bat *Myotis bechsteinii*.

Qualifying habitats: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following habitats listed in Annex I:

- *Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*). (Purple moor-grass meadows)

Qualifying species: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following species listed in Annex II:

- Bechstein's bat *Myotis bechsteinii*

This citation relates to a site entered in the Register of European Sites for Great Britain.

Register reference number: UK0030095

Date of registration: 14 June 2005

Signed: *Trevor Salmon*

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs