

Reasons for recommendation as a candidate Special Area of Conservation

Area name: Arun Valley

Administrative area: West Sussex

Component SSSIs: Pulborough Brooks SSSI and Amberley Wild Brooks SSSI

This area has been recommended as a candidate Special Area of Conservation (SAC) because it contains species which are rare or threatened within a European context. The SSSI citation describes the special interests for which the site was notified in the British context. The interests for which the site was selected as SSSI may differ from the interests selected in a European context.

The species for which the area has been recommended as a candidate SAC is listed below. The reasons for their selection are listed, together with a brief description of the habitats and species as they typically occur across the UK. This area contains the interests described although it may not contain all the typical features.

The area is considered to have a high diversity of habitats/species of European importance.

Interest(s) submitted to the European Commission

European interest(s):

1. Little whirlpool ram's-horn snail *Anisus vorticulus*

- **for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.**

Anisus vorticulus occurs across a range of sites in southern and eastern England. The Arun valley is one of the three main population centres for this species in the UK.

This proposed site includes two of its core sites in the wash lands of the Arun floodplain (Pulborough Brooks and Amberley Wild Brooks SSSIs). Both sites are comprised of a series of wet meadows dissected by a network of ditches. Within the Arun valley these two SSSIs have had the strongest and most consistent presence of *Anisus vorticulus*.

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Date issued: _____

Reference number or date of map: _____