

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

## Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

**Name:** Eller's Wood and Sand Dale  
**Unitary Authority/County:** North Yorkshire  
**SAC status:** Designated on 1 April 2005  
**Grid reference:** SE858849  
**SAC EU code:** UK0030039  
**Area (ha):** 4.09  
**Component SSSI:** Eller's Wood and Sand Dale SSSI

### Site description:

The site comprises a series of springs and associated fen along the lower slopes of Sand Dale. The springs drain into Thornton Beck which forms the eastern boundary of Eller's Wood. Rich fen vegetation follows the seepage lines from springs. Blunt-flowered rush *Juncus subnodulosus*, sharp-flowered rush *J. acutiflorus*, long-stalked yellow sedge *Carex lepidocarpa* and bryophytes form the basis of the community. Between the flushes on raised banks there is more acidic grassland amongst scattered gorse *Ulex europaeus* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*. A population of Geyer's whorl snail *Vertigo geyeri* exists at this site in a tufa-rich flush.

**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:

- Petrifying springs with tufa formation (*Cratoneurion*). (Hard-water springs depositing lime)\*

**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:

- Geyer's whorl snail *Vertigo geyeri*

Annex I priority habitats are denoted by an asterisk (\*).

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

Register reference number: UK0030039

Date of registration: 14 June 2005

Signed: *Trew Salmon*

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