

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

DECLARATION OF AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AT GLEN BURN, COUNTY ANTRIM.  
ARTICLE 24 OF THE NATURE CONSERVATION AND AMENITY LANDS (NORTHERN IRELAND)  
ORDER 1985

The Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland (the Department), having consulted the Committee for Nature Conservation and being satisfied that the area delineated by the solid black line on the attached map (the area) is of special scientific interest by reason of the woodland flora and fauna and accordingly needs to be specially protected, hereby declares the area to be an area of special scientific interest to be known as the "Glen Burn area of special scientific interest."

The area is of special scientific interest because of the richness and diversity of its woodland vegetation. Glen Burn is an area of semi-natural woodland on the slopes of the Glen Burn River. Over the extent of the site, the river flows in a north-westerly direction, within a narrow, steep-sided gorge-like valley.

The tree canopy is dense and very varied in its composition, ranging from areas of almost pure Hazel (Corylus avellana) to much more mature stands of Ash (Fraxinus excelsior). There are several Oak (Quercus spp.) standards. Regeneration of tree seedlings - mainly Ash - is taking place.

Although a comparatively small site, it is notable for the diversity of its ground flora communities. The majority of the woodland is situated on steep slopes, but flat areas also occur, and a range of communities from acid to base-rich are found. Slope and soil moisture variations account for the distribution of the dominant species, eg. Bluebell (Hyacinthoides non-scripta) on the freely-draining upper slopes gives way to Ramsons (Allium ursinum) or Wood Anemone (Anemone nemorosa) on the more waterlogged lower slopes.

The site contains the scarce plants Dutch Rush (Equisetum hyemale) and Toothwort (Lathraea squamaria).

## SCHEDULE

The following operations and activities appear to the Department to be likely to damage the woodland flora and/or fauna of the area and require prior notification to and permission from the Department:-

- Cultivation, including ploughing, rotovating, harrowing or re-seeding.
- Changes in the grazing regime, including changes in the type of livestock or significant increase in livestock population, or changes in the seasonal pattern of grazing.
- The introduction of livestock feeding.
- The introduction of mowing or other methods of cutting vegetation.
- Application of manure, slurry, fertilisers or lime.
- Application of pesticides, herbicides, fungicides or other chemicals deployed to kill, selectively or non-selectively, any form of animal, plant or other living organism.
- Dumping, spreading or discharge of any matter.

**DECLARATION OF AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AT GLEN BURN, COUNTY ANTRIM.  
ARTICLE 24 OF THE NATURE CONSERVATION AND AMENITY LANDS (NORTHERN  
IRELAND) ORDER 1985**

- Burning
- The release into the area of any wild, feral or domestic animal (except for existing grazing purposes as detailed above), plant, or seed. "Animal" includes any mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird, fish or invertebrate.
- The killing or removal of any wild animal other than species regarded as pests, ie birds listed in Schedule 2 Part II of the Wildlife (NI) Order 1985 and mammals not listed in Schedule 6 of the same Order (the word "animal" is defined as any mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird, fish or invertebrate).
- The destruction, displacement, removal or cutting of any plant, seed or plant remains.
- Tree or woodland management (including afforestation, planting, clear and selective felling, thinning, coppicing, modification of the stand or underwood, changes in species composition).
- Drainage, including the use of mole, tile, tunnel or other artificial drains.
- Modification of the structure of water courses (for example, rivers, burns, ditches or drains), including their banks and beds such as by realignment, regrading or dredging.
- Management of aquatic or bank vegetation.
- The alteration of water levels or water tables or utilisation of water (including storage or abstraction).
- Infilling of ditches, drains or marshes.
- Extraction of minerals including sand, gravel, topsoil, sub-soil or chalk.
- Construction, removal or destruction of roads, tracks, walls, fences, hard-standings, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying, maintenance or removal of pipelines or cables, above or below ground.
- Storage of materials.
- Erection of permanent or temporary structures or the undertaking of building, engineering or other operations, including drilling, or the formation of access roads.
- Alteration or modification of natural or man-made features, clearance of boulders, large stones, loose rock or scree.
- Use of vehicles likely to damage the vegetation.

**DECLARATION OF AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AT GLEN BURN,  
COUNTY ANTRIM. ARTICLE 24 OF THE NATURE CONSERVATION AND AMENITY LANDS  
(NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1985**

- Recreational, educational or research activities likely to damage the vegetation.
- Changes in game management or hunting practices.



**J C L PHILLIPS  
Assistant Secretary**

**Sealed with the Official Seal of  
the Department of the Environment for  
Northern Ireland on 14 December, 1987**

DOC330/JD1