

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

DECLARATION OF AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AT NORTH WOODBURN GLEN,  
CO. 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 "North Woodburn Glen area of special scientific interest."

The area is of special scientific interest because of the variety of woodland plants found there and the undisturbed nature of the vegetation. The site comprises an area of semi-natural woodland on the northern tributary of the Woodburn River.

There is a wide range of 'typical' woodland plant species: the forest canopy contains many mature Ash (Fraxinus excelsior) and regeneration is widespread. Hazel (Corylus avellana) is abundant throughout the site, with Willows (mainly Salix cinerea) common alongside the river.

The ground flora communities are very varied. Upstream the slopes are rocky and rich in bryophytes and acidophilous plant species, eg Wood-rush (Luzula sylvatica). On lower slopes where the soils are deeper, moister and more base-rich, the ground flora is diverse and includes communities dominated by such species as Wood Anemone (Anemone nemorosa), Ramsons (Allium ursinum), Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage (Chrysosplenium oppositifolium) and Meadowsweet (Filipendula ulmaria). In places Anemone nemorosa is co-dominant with Red Campion (Silene dioica), an uncommon association in this type of woodland in Northern Ireland.

Several local vascular plant species occur, including Toothwort (Lathraea squamaria) and Wood Vetch (Vicia sylvatica).

## SCHEDULE

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

Changes in the grazing regime, including changes in type of livestock or significant increase in livestock population, or changes in the seasonal pattern of grazing.

The introduction of livestock feeding.

Application of pesticides, herbicides, fungicides or other chemicals deployed to kill, selectively or non-selectively, any form of animal, plant or other living organism.

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Burning.

The release into the area of any wild, feral or domestic animal (except for existing grazing purposes as detailed above).

The killing or removal of any wild animal except as provided for under game management or hunting practices. "Animal" includes 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 or changes in species composition).

The disturbance or modification, by any means, of the vegetation, land surface, sub-surface or water courses, including drainage works and the application of any material to the vegetation, land surface, sub-surface, or watercourses.

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 or the undertaking of building, engineering or other operations.

Storage of materials.

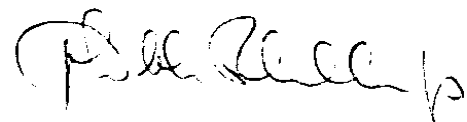
Alteration or modification of natural features, clearance of boulders, large stones, loose rock or scree.

Use of vehicles likely to damage or disturb the vegetation.

Recreational, educational or research activities likely to damage the vegetation.

Changes in game management or hunting practices.

Sealed with the Official Seal Of  
The Department of the Environment for  
Northern Ireland on 13 December, 1988



J C L PHILLIPS  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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