

CITATION

AVON GORGE SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST Falkirk

Site code: 108

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NS 958793

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger series 65
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer series 349

AREA: 19.12 hectares

NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

Biological: Woodlands: Upland mixed ash woodland

DESCRIPTION:

Avon Gorge Site of Special Scientific Interest comprises the steep, wooded banks of the River Avon, approximately 2km south-east of Grangemouth. This site is one of the few remaining ancient, semi-natural woodland sites in the Falkirk area. The wood has been relatively undisturbed and there is a good variety and age structure of native deciduous trees, including elm, oak, alder, hazel, ash, rowan and wild cherry.

On the mainly basic soils there have developed a rich and varied ground flora, including plants which are rare in the area, such as alternate-leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium alternifolium*, moschatel *Adoxa moschatellina* and hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*. In addition, the site contains pendulous sedge *Carex pendula* and lily of the valley *Convallaria majalis*, which are both uncommon in Scotland.

NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the 1949 Act: 1973

Re-notified under the 1981 Act: 28 November 1986 (with a 2.15 ha reduction in area)

Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 24 March 2010

REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected (from 19.00 ha).