

CITATION

**DAMHEAD WOOD
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST**
Clackmannanshire

Site code: 495

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NS 965969

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 58
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 366

AREA: 9.68

NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

Biological: Woodlands: Wet woodland

DESCRIPTION:

Damhead Wood lies 1km south of Dollar on the south bank of the River Devon, on a predominantly north-facing slope. The site is important for its ancient wet woodland which consists of slope and mixed alderwood with ash, birch and willow, a rare habitat in Clackmannanshire.

The woodland has a good structure with a well developed understory and open glades. The ground flora reflects a variety of soil conditions, with nutrient-poor and nutrient-rich groundwater flushes occurring throughout the wood. The ground flora is characteristic of such woodland with a number of locally rare species including lesser pond sedge *Carex acutiformis* in enriched flushes, and wood chickweed *Stellaria nemorum*. The uncommon grasses giant fescue *Festuca gigantea*, and bearded couch *Elymus caninus* and also wood horsetail *Equisetum sylvaticum* are locally dominant. In addition to these woodland species, glades of unimproved neutral grassland support a characteristic grassland flora including the local species burnet saxifrage *Pimpinella saxifraga*.

NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981: 13 April 1989

Notification reviewed under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004:

4 March 2011

REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected (from 10 ha).