

## CITATION

**GORDON MOSS**  
**SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST**  
Scottish Borders

Site code: 740

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NT 634425

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 73  
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 338

AREA: 43.26 hectares

## NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

**Biological: Woodlands: Wet woodland**

## DESCRIPTION

Gordon Moss Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is located less than 1km west of the village of Gordon in the Scottish Borders. The site comprises the remnant of a much larger, partly spring-fed alluvial floodplain mire (bog) and now hosts a wide diversity of habitats including one of the largest remaining wet birch-willow woodlands in the area, a rare and declining habitat in the Borders.

A large number of higher plants (230 species recorded since 1938) are known from the site including Scottish rarities and several undergoing national decline. These include coralroot orchid *Corallorhiza trifida*, dark leaved willow *Salix myrsinifolia*, lesser tussock sedge *Carex diandra*, alternate leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium alternifolium*, broadleaved cotton grass *Eriophorum latifolium*, lesser butterfly orchid *Platanthera bifolia*, shining pondweed *Potamogeton lucens*, tea-leaved willow *Salix phylicifolia*, least bur-reed *Sparganium minimum*, heath dog violet *Viola canina*, moonwort *Botrychium lunaria*, marsh stitchwort *Stellaria palustris*, purple loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria*, yellow loosestrife *Lysimachia vulgaris*, marsh hawk's beard *Crepis paludosa* and melancholy thistle *Cirsium heterophyllum*.

Although not a notified feature of the site, lepidoptera at Gordon Moss are also of national significance with 231 moths recorded including small chocolate tip *Clostera pigra*, dark tussock *Dicallomera fascelina*, brindled ochre *Dasypolia templi* and butterbur *Hydraecia petasitis*, all of which are notable species. The 13 recorded butterflies include the small pearl bordered fritillary *Boloria selene* which now has only a handful of Borders localities. Several rare or notable micro lepidoptera have also been recorded.

## NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the 1949 Act: 1957 and 1971  
Re-notified under the 1981 Act: 10 June 1986  
Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act: 3 February 2011

## REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected (from 44.5 ha).