

COUNTY: SUFFOLK SITE NAME: TITSAL WOOD, SHADINGFIELD

DISTRICT: WAVENEY

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Local Planning Authority: WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: TM 426837 Area: 14.4 (ha.) 35.5 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 156 1:10,000: TM 48 SW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1971 Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1985 Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

Titsal Wood is an ancient woodland on boulder clay overlain by sand. The site is the most interesting example of the sloping type of East Suffolk hornbeam wood. It has a rich flora, including ancient woodland plants and one scarce species.

Pedunculate oak-hornbeam woodland of the ash-maple variant is the dominant stand-type over much of the wood. Young standard trees of Oak *Quercus robur* and Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* are frequent. There are some areas of pure Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* coppice but this is usually mixed with Ash, Field Maple *Acer campestre* and Hazel *Corylus avellana*. Small stands of mixed ashwood and suckering elmwood are also present.

The ground flora is dominated by Bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. with frequent patches of Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Ground Ivy *Glechoma hederacea* and Wood Sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*. Interesting species include Common Spotted Orchid *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*, Primrose *Primula vulgaris*, Wood Bitter-cress *Cardamine flexuosa* and the rare Thin-spiked Wood Sedge *Carex strigosa*.

A wide ride bisects the wood. This has a distinctive flora that includes Creeping Soft-grass *Holcus mollis*, Remote Sedge *Carex remota* and Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*.