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 Signed: [Signature]

EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds:
Special Protection Area

Name: Arun Valley

Unitary Authority/County: West Sussex

Consultation proposal: Waltham Brooks Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Amberley Wild Brooks SSSI and Pulborough Brooks SSSI have been recommended as a Special Protection Area because of the site's European ornithological importance. The three component SSSIs encompass a series of wet meadows, alluvial grazing marsh and former raised peat bog.

Boundary of SPA: The SPA boundary is coincident with both Amberley Wild Brooks SSSI and Pulborough Brooks SSSI. The SPA boundary also follows Waltham Brooks SSSI boundary but omits the land lying to the west of the railway.

European ornithological importance of SPA:

Arun Valley SPA is of European importance because:

a) The site qualifies under article 4.1 of the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) as it is used regularly by 1% or more of the Great Britain population of a species listed on Annex 1 in any season:

Annex 1 species	5 yr peak mean for 1992/93 - 1996/97
Bewick's Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>	1151 (1.6% GB)

Unit of population size: I - individual birds wintering

b) The site is used regularly by over 20,000 waterfowl (waterfowl as defined by the Ramsar Convention).

Period	Peak Mean	Waterfowl
1992/93 to 1996/97	27,241	(waders & wildfowl)

Unit of population size: I - individual birds wintering

All figures from: Papazoglou, F. & Gilbert, S. 1997. A proposal for a Special Protection Area in the Arun Valley, West Sussex. RSPB. Brighton

Non-qualifying species of interest

In addition, the site supports nationally important populations of wigeon *Anas penelope*, teal *Anas crecca*, pintail *Anas acuta*, shoveler *Anas clypeata* and Ruff (Annex 1 species) *Philomachus pugnax*. Golden plover *Pluvialis apricaria* and kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, both Annex 1 species, also occur on Arun Valley SPA.