

# EC Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora

## Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

**Name:** Beer Quarry and Caves  
**Unitary Authority/County:** Devon  
**SAC status:** Designated on 1 April 2005  
**Grid reference:** SY215892  
**SAC EU code:** UK0012585  
**Area (ha):** 31.10  
**Component SSSI:** Beer Quarry and Caves SSSI

### Site description:

This site is important for its population of hibernating bats. The southern part of the site comprises an extensive series of caves which have been formed by many years of mining for Beer Stone. Regular recording began in 1951 and in recent years there have been large numbers of an unusually wide range of bat species. These include the very rare Bechstein's bat *Myotis bechsteinii* and the greater and lesser horseshoe bats *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum* and *R. hipposideros*. The northern part of the site is an actively worked quarry and the old tunnels there are also used by bats.

**Qualifying species:** The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following species listed in Annex II:

- Bechstein's bat *Myotis bechsteinii*
- Greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*
- Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*

This citation relates to a site entered in the Register of European Sites for Great Britain.

Register reference number: UK0012585

Date of registration: 14 June 2005

Signed: *Trevor Salmon*

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment,  
Food and Rural Affairs