

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

Name: South West London Waterbodies

Unitary Authority/County: London Borough of Hounslow, Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead and Surrey.

Consultation proposal: Kempton Park Reservoirs Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Knight & Bessborough Reservoirs SSSI, Thorpe Park No. 1 Gravel Pit SSSI, Wraysbury No. 1 Gravel Pit SSSI, Wraysbury Reservoir SSSI, and parts of Staines Moor SSSI and Wraysbury & Hythe End Gravel Pits SSSI have been recommended as a Special Protection Area because of the site's European ornithological interest.

The South West London Waterbodies SPA comprises a series of embanked water supply reservoirs and former gravel pits that support a range of man-made and semi-natural open-water habitats.

Boundary of SPA: The SPA boundary is coincident with Kempton Park Reservoirs SSSI, Knight & Bessborough Reservoirs SSSI, Thorpe Park No. 1 Gravel Pit SSSI, Wraysbury No. 1 Gravel Pit SSSI, Wraysbury Reservoir SSSI, and includes parts of Staines Moor SSSI and Wraysbury & Hythe End Gravel Pits SSSI. See SPA map for further detail.

Size of SPA: The SPA covers an area of 828.14 ha.

European ornithological interest of SPA

South West London Waterbodies SPA is of European importance because:

- a) the site qualifies under **article 4.2** of the Directive (79/409/EEC) as it is used regularly by 1% or more of the biogeographical populations of the following regularly occurring migratory species (other than those listed on Annex 1), in any season:

Migratory species	5 year peak mean 1993/94 - 1997/98	% of population
Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i>	710 individuals - wintering	2.4 % NW Europe
Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>	853 individuals - wintering	2.1 % NW/Central Europe

Bird figures from WeBS database.

Non-qualifying species of interest

In addition, the site supports nationally important numbers of cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*, great crested grebe *Podiceps cristatus*, tufted duck *Aythya fuligula*, pochard *Aythya ferina* and coot *Fulica atra*.

Status of SPA

South West London Waterbodies was classified as a Special Protection Area on 22 September 2000.