

BLACKHILL QUARRY

2017-2026: Probable Priority Site of National Importance

Small population of Small Red Damselfly confirmed breeding; presence of Red-eyed Damselfly; Red-veined Darter may have bred in 2020.

Last updated: 28/03/2025

Site: BLACKHILL QUARRY	1987-1996			1997-2006			2007-2016			2017-2026		
Grid ref.: SY031853	Breeding		Other	Breeding		Other	Breeding		Other	Breeding		Other
	Succ	Poss		Succ	Poss		Succ	Poss		Succ	Poss	
<i>Damselflies</i>												
Beautiful Demoiselle												
Banded Demoiselle												
Emerald Damselfly										A		C
White-legged Damselfly												
Large Red Damselfly												B
Blue-tailed Damselfly												B
Scarce Blue-t Damselfly												
Common Blue Damselfly										B	B	D
Southern Damselfly												
Azure Damselfly												C
Red-eyed Damselfly												A
Small Red-eyed Damselfly												
Small Red Damselfly										B		C
<i>Dragonflies</i>												
Hairy Dragonfly												
Common Hawker												
Norfolk Hawker												
Brown Hawker												
Southern Hawker										A		A
Migrant Hawker												
Emperor Dragonfly										B	A	B
Lesser Emperor												
Vagrant Emperor												
Golden-ringed Dragonfly												
Downy Emerald												
Broad-bodied Chaser										A		B
Scarce Chaser												
Four-spotted Chaser												A
Keeled Skimmer												D
Black-tailed Skimmer										B	A	C
Common Darter										C	A	C
Red-veined Darter												C
Ruddy Darter												
Black Darter												
Yellow-winged Darter												
Scarlet Darter												
Total species in category:										8	4	15

Bold underlined = nationally important species **Bold black = important species**

Succ = Successful breeding (exuvia(e) and/or larva(e) and/or pre-flight emergent and/or oviposition);

Poss = Possible breeding (copulating pair); Other = Adult(s) or unspecified.

Abundance codes: A=1; B=2-5; C=6-20; D=21-100; E=101-500; F=>500; + = no count.

Priority Species History

Red-eyed Damselfly – at least 1 male at Utility Pond (SY03148541) on 25/6/20.

Small Red Damselfly – 6 (3 male, 3 emergent) at Utility Drain (SY03168531) on 25/6/20.

Other species of note

Red-veined Darter – up to 10 immatures in dry area around 'west pool' at SY02838525 in June, with 3-4 mature males on territory at a nearby shallow pond ('Pool no. 1', SY02798547) on 25 June; however, no exuviae were found then or on 14 September, when a second generation might have been expected.

Habitat

Former sand quarry, in the process of rewilding.

Status

None.

Area

c. 100 ha

Owner/tenant

Being managed by RSPB.

Local Authority: East Devon DC.

Threats

- Natural succession

Management suggestions

- Retain wetland features, where possible – especially Utility Drain.

