

COUNTY: SHROPSHIRE SITE NAME: RIVER SEVERN AT MONTFORD

DISTRICT: SHREWSBURY & ATCHAM SITE REF: 15WNG

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

Local Planning Authority: SHROPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council

National Grid Reference: SJ 396153, SJ 432153 Area: 27.01 (ha.) 66.7 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 126 1:10,000: SJ 31 SE, NE, SJ 41 SW,
NW

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

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 14/12/94 Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:
New site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

The River Severn at Montford is a classic example of an underfit stream of the Osage type. Although both the existing and former channel are comparable to the stereotype meandering stream in terms of dimensional and hydraulic characteristics, and although channel dimensions are greatly reduced and a pool-and-riffle sequence is well defined, the river has failed to develop meanders. The unduly low slope on the reach so reduces stream power, shear stress and frictional shearing velocity on the banks that little bank erosion can occur. In contrast, the stream bed has experienced down cutting that includes excavation of pools in bedrock.