

39. Gladhouse Reservoir

Geographical Coordinates 55°44'N 3°07'W

Area 186ha

Location About 20km south of the city of Edinburgh, in Lothian region, south-east Scotland.

Date of Ramsar Designation 14 July 1988.

Other International Designations Special Protection Area under EC Directive 79/409.

National Designations Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Principal Features A large mesotrophic freshwater reservoir with several small islands. There is limited development of aquatic vegetation, although there are small marginal areas of *Salix* and *Phalaris arundinacea* fen. The reservoir is a roost site for internationally important numbers of wintering *Anser brachyrhynchus* (average peak count during the five winters 1987/88 to 1991/92 was 3,440). (3b,3c)

Conservation Issues Peak numbers of roosting geese have declined in recent years, though reasons for the decline are unclear; possible causes include shooting disturbance and changes in agricultural land use - research is ongoing. The 1990 UK National Report noted that the reservoir was apparently becoming more eutrophic; work is continuing to investigate the problem.