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### **Bra165. Witham Marsh (11.7 ha) TL 815154**

This site comprises sedge-beds, rough marshy grassland and several springs (which are of considerable geomorphological interest). To the south is a very extensive bed of both Greater and Lesser Pond Sedge (*Carex riparia* and *Carex acutiformis*), with Reed Canary-grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), Water Horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*), Angelica (*Angelica sylvestris*) and many other herbs and grasses. Further north, sedge-beds occur in association with the short streams, which feed into the River Blackwater. Elsewhere, rough grassland and marshy grassland form a complex mosaic of habitats. Casual recreation is placing a degree of pressure on the site and the increase in peripheral housing has caused an alteration in the drainage characteristics and a drying out of the sedge-beds.

**Selection Criteria:** HCr5, HCr14, HCr23