

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number:MG-1-M

SINC name: Caerau West

Grid reference: SS 846 938

Area (hectares): 62.09

Survey date: 06/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A large dry acid grassland site with purple moor grass pasture in the more low lying areas. Species diversity increases in the wetter areas. The site also includes areas of dense bracken.

Qualifying features

Dry acid grassland

Secondary features

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site may be suitable for a range of invertebrate and bird species for feeding and possibly ground nesting. Smaller reptile species may be found here and amphibians may use the pools of standing water for breeding.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Sheep, cattle and horses graze the area, fairly tightly in places which may limit the biodiversity value.

Himalayan balsam is present in small parts of the site, particularly where past disturbance or tipping has taken place.

The site may benefit from bracken control and limiting livestock numbers.

Recommendations for future management:

- Consider reducing grazing pressure on grassland
- Removal of tipped material.
- Control of invasive species.
- Management of bracken.

Additional information:

A few areas of similar habitat beyond the SINC boundary could be surveyed in the future with a view to designation.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, wavy hair grass *Deschampsia flexuosa*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, mat grass *Nardus stricta*, yellow sedge *Carex viridula*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*, green ribbed sedge *Carex binervis*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, toad rush *Juncus buffonius*, round leaved water crowfoot *Ranunculus omiophilus*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp., lesser skullcap *Scutellaria minor*, selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*

Woodland and scrub species

Faunal species

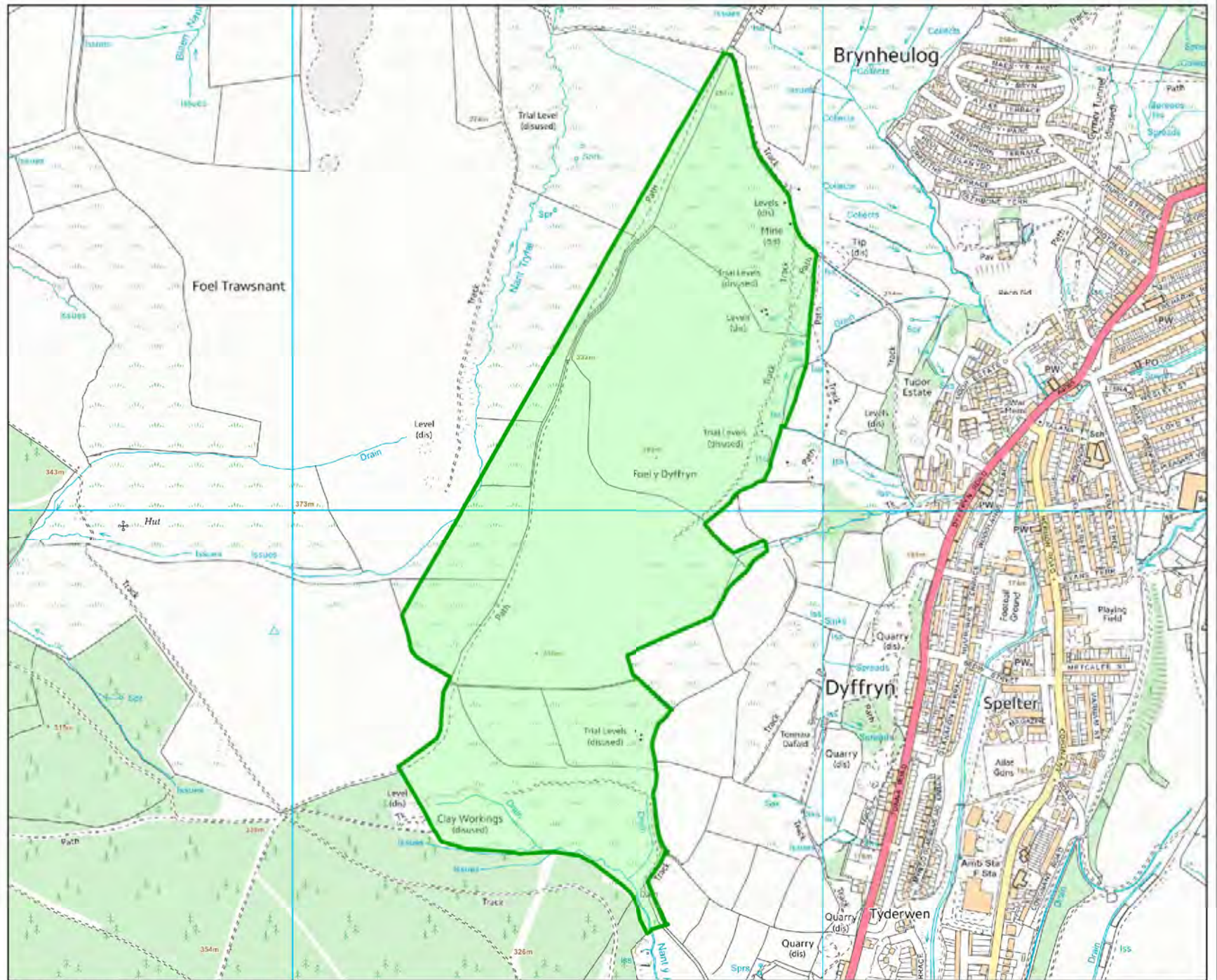
Skylark, meadow pipit

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Goshawk, marsh harrier, hen harrier, merlin, peregrine, crossbill, red kite, honey buzzard, redwing, fieldfare, skylark, tree pipit, lesser redpoll, linnet, small heath, cuckoo, red bunting, kestrel, black headed gull, grasshopper warbler, house sparrow, golden plover, hedge accentor, buff ermine, starling, song thrush, ring ouzel, cinnabar, swift, grey heron, goldfinch, siskin, raven, house martin, wheatear, chiff chaf, whinchat, garden warbler, blackbird.



**MG-1-M
Caerau West**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-2-M

SINC name: Caerau North

Grid reference: SS 851 949

Area (hectares): 47.78

Survey date: 06/09/2001

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A site which lies mostly under 300m elevation, with the most northerly areas covered by plantation woodland and felled plantation. The less dense areas of trees allow some woodland ground flora to persist. Purple moor grass and rush pasture dominate the remainder of the site with small areas of dry heath and a flush occurring near the middle of the site. The south of the site is a steep river valley with scattered sessile oak trees and bracken.

Qualifying features

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Dry acid grassland

Lowland raised bog

Secondary features

Coniferous plantation

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The plantation trees provide nesting sites for larger birds in particular. The grassland areas might provide nesting areas for ground nesting birds and reptiles particularly common lizard. Small mammals such as bank voles are likely to be present and provide prey items for larger birds. The site is also likely to support a diversity of invertebrates.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The plantation woodland has been thinned in places, where other areas have a very dense canopy. Some parts of the plantation have been burned.

The purple moor grass, bog and rush pasture areas are grazed by sheep and cattle, which appears to be compromising the more sensitive areas with a high degree of sphagnum cover.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Consider locally excluding livestock from pasture areas to maintain floristic value.

Additional information:

Areas of interest nearby could be surveyed with a view to designation, including an area of rock exposure.

Orange discharge noted from groundwater, moving slowly through the bog, may indicate past mining activities.

Landowners: Mr Martin Jackson, Brynhaelog & Mr Guy Jones, Keepers Cottage

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Tufted hair grass *Deshampsia cespitosa*, compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, greater bird's trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, velvet bent *Agrostis canina*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, lesser skullcap *Scutellaria minor*, toad rush *Juncus buffonius*, yellow sedge *Carex viridula*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, heath milkwort *Polygala serpyllifolia*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*, mat grass *Nardus stricta*,

Bog

Green ribbed sedge *Carex binervis*, bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum*, marsh violet *Viola palustris*, bog bean *Menyanthes trifoliata*, star sedge *Carex echinata*, multiple *Sphagnum* species *Sphagnum* sp. including *S. squarrosus*, cotton grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, bog pondweed *Potamogeton polygonifolius* heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*, round leaved sundew *Drosera rotundifolia*, mat grass *Nardus stricta*, compact rush *Juncus conglomerata*

Woodland and scrub species

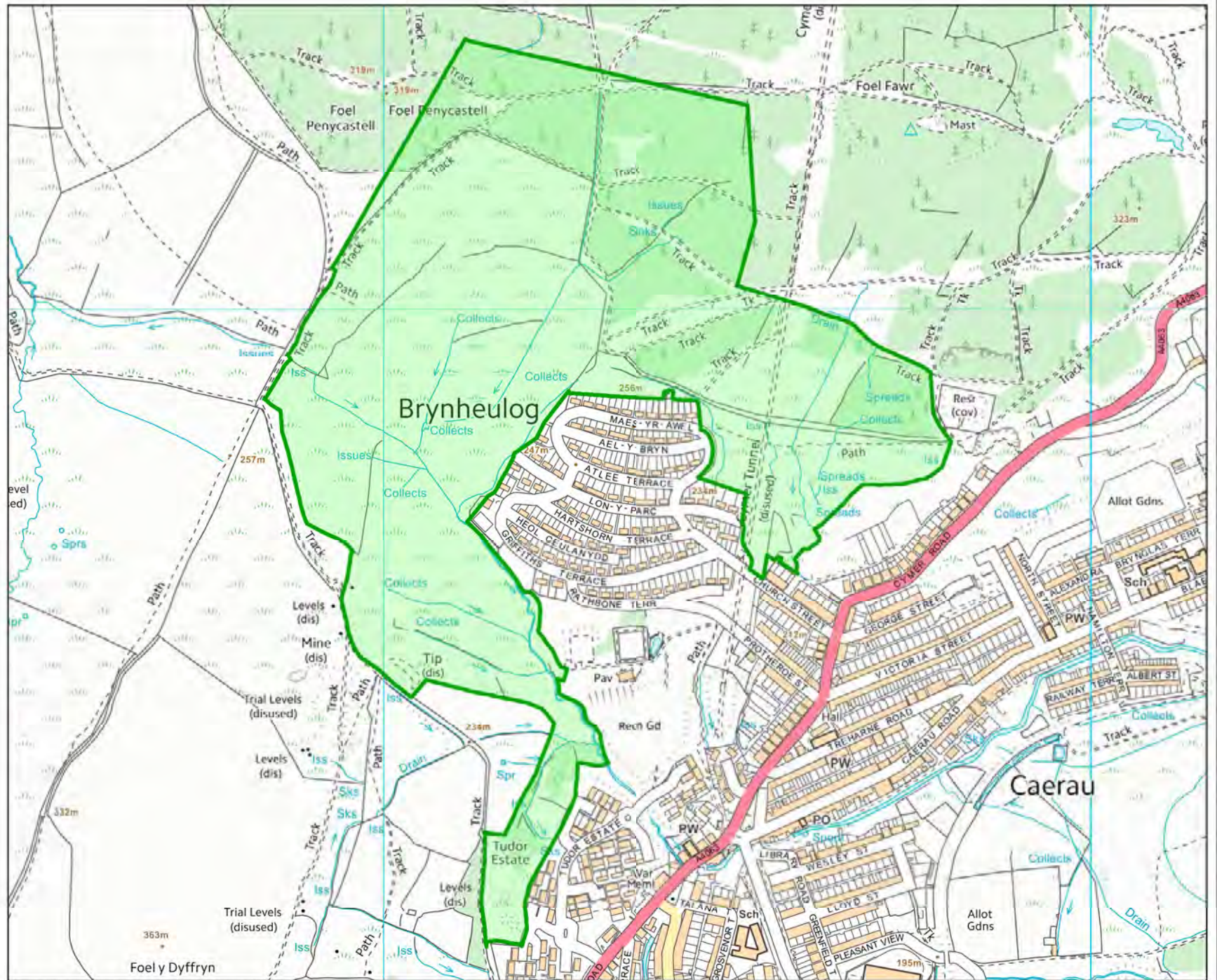
Larch *Larix* sp., bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., grey willow *Salix cinerea*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, round leaved water crowfoot *Ranunculus omiophilus*, water starwort *Calitriche* sp., lady fern *Athyrium filix femina*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp., ling *Calluna vulgaris*.

Faunal species

Swallow, greater spotted woodpecker.

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Goshawk, marsh harrier, hen harrier, merlin, peregrine, crossbill, red kite, honey buzzard, redwing, fieldfare, skylark, tree pipit, lesser redpoll, linnets, small heath, cuckoo, lesser spotted woodpecker, reed bunting, kestrel, black headed gull, house sparrow, grasshopper warbler, hedge accentor, buff ermine, golden plover, starling, song thrush, ring ouzel, cinnabar, swift, grey heron, gold finch, siskin, raven, house martin, wheatear, chiffchaff, whinchat, garden warbler, blackbird.



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-3-M

SINC name: Blaen-Cwmdu

Grid reference: SS 873 919

Area (hectares): 37.54

Survey date: 07/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A moderate sized and varied site containing, mainly purple moor grass and rush pasture, with dry acid grassland, small areas of neutral grassland, scrub, heath, broadleaved woodland, ponds and a small watercourse.

Qualifying features

Heath

Dry acid grassland

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Secondary features

Ponds

Native woodland

Rivers

Scrub

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site has the potential to support a diversity of invertebrate species including yellow meadow ant. Reptiles are likely to be present as well as a variety of birds, including ground nesting birds. Small mammals may be present such as bank voles which may attract smaller birds of prey and owls.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The majority of the site is sheep grazed which in small numbers appears to be ineffective against the spread of bracken on to more valuable grasslands and overgrowth of purple moor grass. Part of the site to the east has been used for off-road motorcycling, which has caused damage to the grasslands. The site is thought to be generally in decline with a need for some intervention. The off-road motorcycling has ceased and no longer damaging the habitat, but sheep grazing should be allowed over the whole grassland area in low densities. Scrub and bracken encroachment needs to be controlled, by cutting, rolling or spraying. The pooling of water in some areas could be dug out as ponds and the purple moor grass areas need to be managed, either by cutting or controlled burning.

Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam are both present on this site, mainly in association with the watercourse. Spread of these invasive species may need to be controlled to retain the biodiversity interest, particularly of the woodland and stream.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of bracken to prevent spread into valuable grasslands.
- Localised grazing may be used to control the overgrowth of purple moor grass.
- Employ measures to prevent off-road motorcycling.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

Several areas of good quality habitat lay adjacent to the site which could be considered for future survey and possible designation. The fields nearest to the road have been agriculturally improved and may no longer meet the SINC criteria.

Right of way across the site could not be found.

Landowner: Robert Lewis/Owen Ford? 'Nancy'

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, common sedge *Carex nigra*, hairy sedge *Carex hirta*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, bird's foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, green ribbed sedge *Carex binervis*, lesser trefoil *Trifolium dubium*, eyebright *Euphrasia nemorosa*, creeping cinquefoil *Potentilla reptans*, selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*, yellow sedge *Carex viridula*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, carline thistle *Carlina vulgaris*, compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, hard rush *Juncus inflexus*, crested dog's tail *Cynosaurus cristatus*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, wavy hair grass *Deschampsia flexuosa*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, star sedge *Carex echinata*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, cotton grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, marsh pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, oval sedge *Carex ovalis*, creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp., heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, mat grass *Nardus stricta*, sneezewort *Achillea ptarmica*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, puff ball fungi, pink waxcap fungi *Hygrocybe calyptriformis*.

Woodland and scrub species

Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, polypody *Polypodium vulgare*, strawberry *Fragaria vesca*

Faunal species

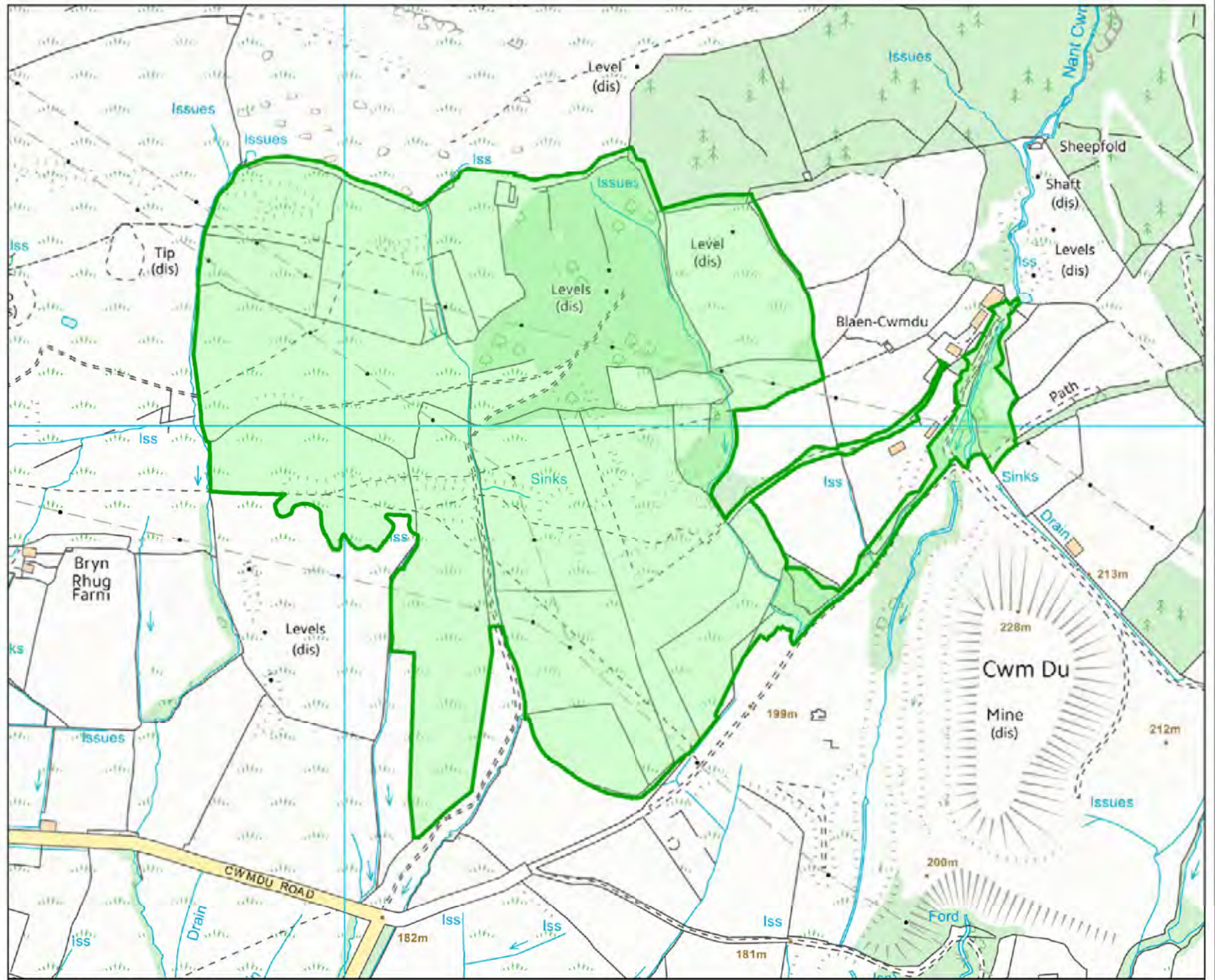
Swallow

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary



**MG-3-M
Blaen-Cwmdu**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council**SINC number:** MG-4-M**SINC name:** Nant-y-Crynwydd**Grid reference:** SS 840 919**Area (hectares):** 28.04**Survey date:** 19/09/2011**Surveyor name:** Rebecca East**Summary description**

The site is made up of a patchwork of acidic grassland, rush pastures and small areas of raised bog with some scrub and small woodland fragments.

Qualifying features

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Acid grassland

Secondary features

Scrub

Raised bog

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site is likely to support a diversity of invertebrate species and possibly ground nesting birds. Brown hare and other small mammals may be present, which make it suitable for foraging for birds of prey or owls. Amphibians may use standing water areas for breeding and reptiles are likely to be present, particularly common lizard.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The whole site is grazed by cattle or horses. The separate field grazed by horses adjacent to the road is more intensively managed than the rest of the site. The cattle grazed area of former forestry plantation is thought to be improving in its biodiversity value. The enclosed fields of rush pasture could be more diverse than at present. Management might involve occasional mowing to reduce the nutrient content and reducing the stocking densities.

Recommendations for future management:

- Reduce grazing intensity and management of the field adjacent to the road.
- Consider mowing areas of rush pasture.

Additional information:

The forestry area adjacent to the sites and the main right of way has been clear-felled and is developing a good wet heath, rush pasture flora. This area could be surveyed, with the bracken areas to the east for possible designation if appropriate.

Landowner: Mr R Barlow, 75 Neath Road, Maesteg

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, eyebright *Euphrasia nemorosa*, sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, marsh woundwort *Stachys palustris*, hemp agrimony *Eupatoria cannabinum*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, fleabane *Pulicaria dysenterica*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp., sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, heath rush *J. squarrosus*, mat grass *Nardus stricta*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, glaucous sedge *Carex flacca*, water starwort *Callitriche* sp, round leaved water crowfoot *Ranunculus omiophilus*, yellow sedge *C. viridula*, bristle bent *Agrostis curtisii*.

Faunal species

Buzzard, meadow pipit, jay, blackbird, house martin, polecat (scat)?

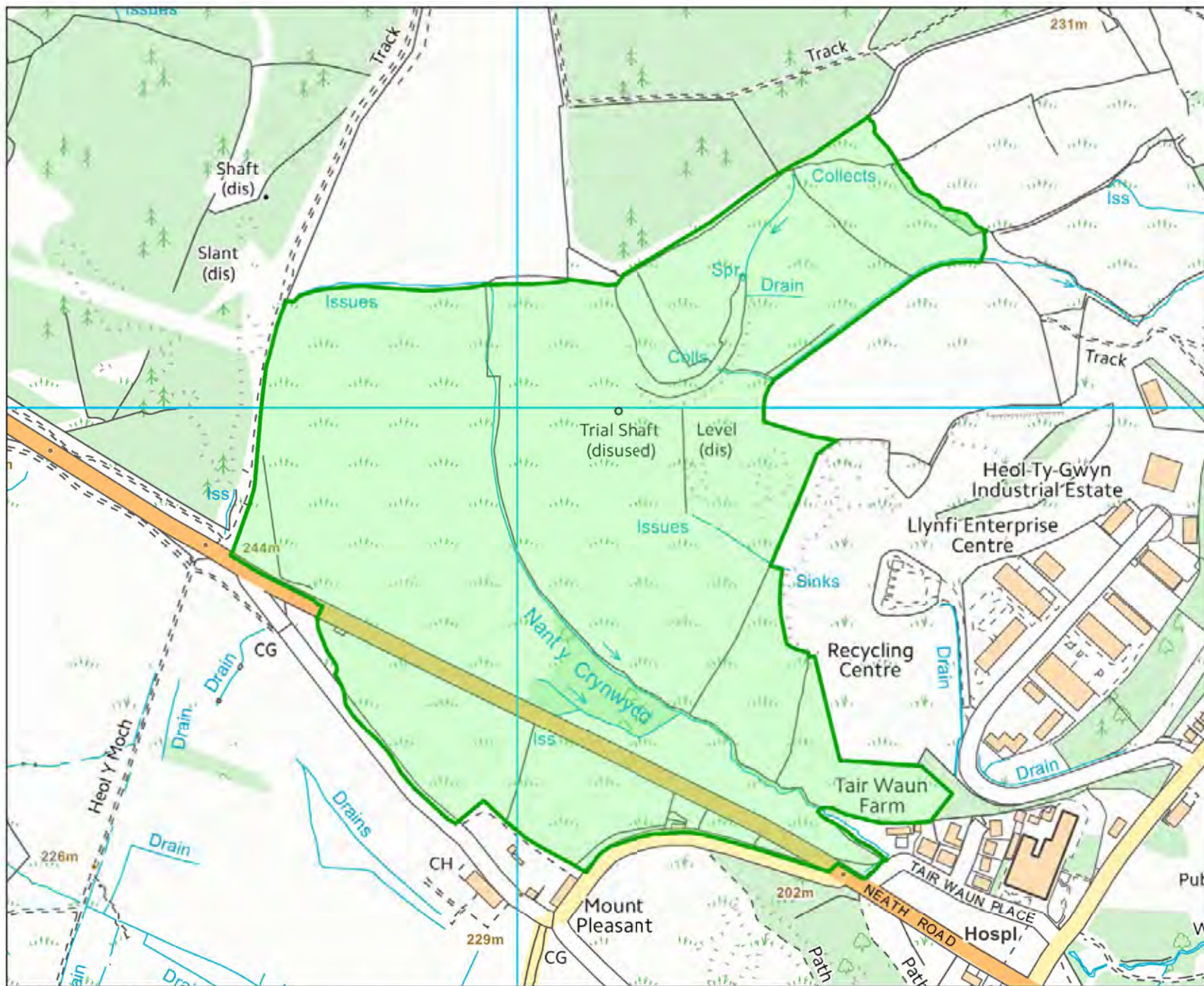
Faunal species from data search (0m)

none



**BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW**

MG-4-M
Nant-y-Crynwydd



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 06/08/2013

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Scale 1:5,000 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-5-N

SINC name: Abercerdin Wood

Grid reference: SS 852 896

Area (hectares): 32.35

Survey date: 14/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

The site is made up mainly of broadleaved woodland, most of which has been identified as of ancient woodland origin. The woodland and scrub follows the Nant Lluest Wen stream and a tributary of it. The site also contains bracken slopes with rosebay willowherb and neutral grassland areas.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

River

Secondary features

Scrub and bracken

Neutral grassland

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The woodland and river corridor areas look suitable for many mammalian species, such as dormice, bats, and otter, while a diversity of invertebrate and bird species are likely. The woodland margins and bracken areas could provide habitat for reptiles of several species.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

At the time of survey the woodland areas appeared largely unmanaged but retained a good structure with understorey and some ground flora. Bracken areas above the river appear to have been rolled in an effort to limit vigorous growth. Cattle grazing was apparent in many areas, heavily so in some places.

Fallow deer seen, during the survey, regularly pass through this area. Although their routes through the woodland are apparent, their numbers are low enough not to cause extensive damage.

Himalayan balsam has become dominant in the absence of management in some areas and the biodiversity interest is at risk of being lost. Japanese knotweed is also present, but not covering large areas as yet.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continued management of bracken.
- Locally reduce grazing intensity.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

Some parts of the site were inaccessible due to the overgrown nature of the habitat. This particularly applies to the fields to the west and east.

Rights of way were confusing to follow through the site and not present at all at the far western end of the site, except a footbridge.

A few adjacent pieces of land appeared to be of good quality and could be surveyed with a view to designation.

Landowner: Mr D Mathias, Gellienor Farm,

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub species

Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, beech *Fagus sylvatica*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, scaly male fern *Dryopteris affinis*, black bryony *Tamus communis*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, dog violet *Viola canina*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, hart's tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, red campion *Silene dioica*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, yellow pimpernel *Lysmachia nemorum*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, greater stitchwort *Stellaria hollostea*, wood sedge *Carex sylvatica*, enchanter's nightshade *Circea lutetiana*, hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvaticum*, opposite leaved-golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, navelwort *Umbilicus rupestris*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, puffball fungi.

Faunal species

Blackbird, meadow pipit, house martin, rook, buzzard

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Bullhead, salmon, fuscous flat-body, eel, brown trout, white ermine, golden ringed dragonfly, fen square spot, Devon carpet, red sword grass.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-6-M

SINC name: Y Parc (north)

Grid reference: SS 848 908

Area (hectares): 25.28

Survey date: 19/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A complex site consisting mainly of acidic grassland and purple moor grass pasture. Other habitats include broadleaved woodland with a degraded ground flora, scrub, bracken with a floristically diverse understorey, raised bog and a small area of heath.

Qualifying features

Lowland dry acid grassland

Raised bog

Heath

Secondary features

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Native woodland

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

This site is likely to support a diversity of invertebrate species, reptiles and possibly ground nesting birds. Brown hare and more common small mammals may be present attracting birds of prey to hunt at the site. The woodland area may support bats for roosting and foraging.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The majority of the site is not fenced and used widely for informal recreation. Fly-tipping occurs within easy access of the road. A few horses graze the site, but not intensively. Evidence was found to suggest that the purple moor grass pasture to the north and scrub had been burnt this year. The site could benefit from some additional management. Within the woodland areas selective felling and coppicing could be increased, with the control of bracken and scrub. Bracken areas could be rolled to decrease its vigour and allow a more diverse ground flora or sustain those areas where bluebell is already present as ground flora. The purple moor grass areas could be grazed more evenly or low temperature controlled burning could be employed. Ensuring the bog area continues to receive adequate moisture and of a reasonable water quality will be important for this particular habitat area. Regular removal of rubbish and public education regarding arson and fly tipping on this site will be important to sustaining its biodiversity value. Himalayan balsam, rhododendron and Japanese knotweed are both present within the wooded areas and most likely associated with fly-tipping, removal of invasive species is recommended.

Recommendations for future management:

- Fence off areas of woodland to reduce stress from recreation and undertake selective

felling and coppicing.

- Control of scrub and bracken
- Remove tipped material near houses, and try to prevent further tipping.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Gorse *Ulex europaeus*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, eyebright *Euphrasia nemorosa*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, bird's foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, black knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp., jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, zig-zag clover *Trifolium medium*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, common spike rush *Eleocharis palustris*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*,

Woodland and scrub species

Sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, scot's pine *Pinus sylvestris*, larch *Larix deciduas*, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, bittervetch *Lathyrus montanus*, rosebay willowherb *Chamaenerion angustifolius*, germander speedwell *Veronica chamaedrys*, wavy hair grass *Deschampsia flexuosa*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, raspberry *Rubus idaeus*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, dog violet *Viola riviniana*, wood sage *Teucrium scorodonia*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, enchanter's nightshade *Circea lutetiana*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*,

Faunal species

Meadow pipit, sparrowhawk?

Faunal species from data search (0m)

none

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council**SINC number:** MG-7-N**SINC name:** Garth Grassland**Grid reference:** SS 870 911**Area (hectares):** 24.70**Survey date:** 08/09/2011**Surveyor name:** Rebecca East**Summary description**

The site is made up primarily of purple moor grass and rush pastures, with areas of neutral grassland. Streams run through the site surrounded by broadleaved woodland which occurs on steep banks. Some of the woodland has the characteristics of wet woodland.

Qualifying features

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Neutral grassland

Acid grassland

Native woodland

Secondary features

Rivers

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site has the potential to support a number of invertebrate species including marsh fritillary butterfly. Birdlife is most likely varied given the varying habitats available. Small mammals including dormice and bats could be present. The stream could be suitable for smaller fish species and possibly salmonids. Otters are likely to travel into the area in search of food and possibly resting places.

The tunnel through which the stream travels underneath the former railway line to the south is likely to have at least some potential for bat roosting.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Cattle graze most of the site in relatively low numbers and fields are occasionally mown, particularly those near to the farm access track. Cattle enter the woodland area where it is not too steep, but could be fenced to prevent their access. Selective felling and coppicing is recommended to enhance the woodland areas which are typically very shaded. Hedgerow could be laid to increase the habitat connectivity across the site. Artificial otter holts could be added along the stream corridor while the grassland areas do not require much of a change in management. Grazing could be undertaken at a slightly lower intensity, while other areas could be mown or grazed more often, where they have become overgrown and rank. Regular removal of rubbish and public education may help reduce fly-tipping in the woodland area which occurs occasionally. Himalayan balsam is present on the site near to the roads and water courses and will require control to retain biodiversity interest of these areas.

Recommendations for future management:

- Woodland could be fenced to prevent cattle grazing.
- Selective felling and coppicing is recommended to enhance the woodland areas which are typically very shaded.
- Hedgerow could be layed to increase the habitat connectivity across the site.
- Removal of tipped material and try to prevent further tipping.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

Landowners: Mr Stuart Kennedy/ 'Nancy'

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, black knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, timothy *Phleum pratense*, sneezewort *Achillea ptarmica*, velvet bent *Agrostis canina*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, ragwort *Senecio jacobea*, common sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, bird's foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, soft rush *Juncus effusus*, cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina*, saw-wort *Serrulata tinctoria*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, yellow sedge *Carex viridula*, carnation sedge *Carex panacea*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, betony *Betonica officinalis*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp, star sedge *Carex echinata*.

Woodland and scrub species

Grey willow *Salix cinerea*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, nipplewort *Lapsana communis*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, soft shield fern *Polystichum setiferum*, dog violet *Viola riviana*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, wild strawberry *Fragaria vesca*, yellow pimpernel *Lysmachia nemorum*, opposite leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, red campion *Silene dioica*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, lady's mantle *Alchemilla vulgaris*,

Faunal species

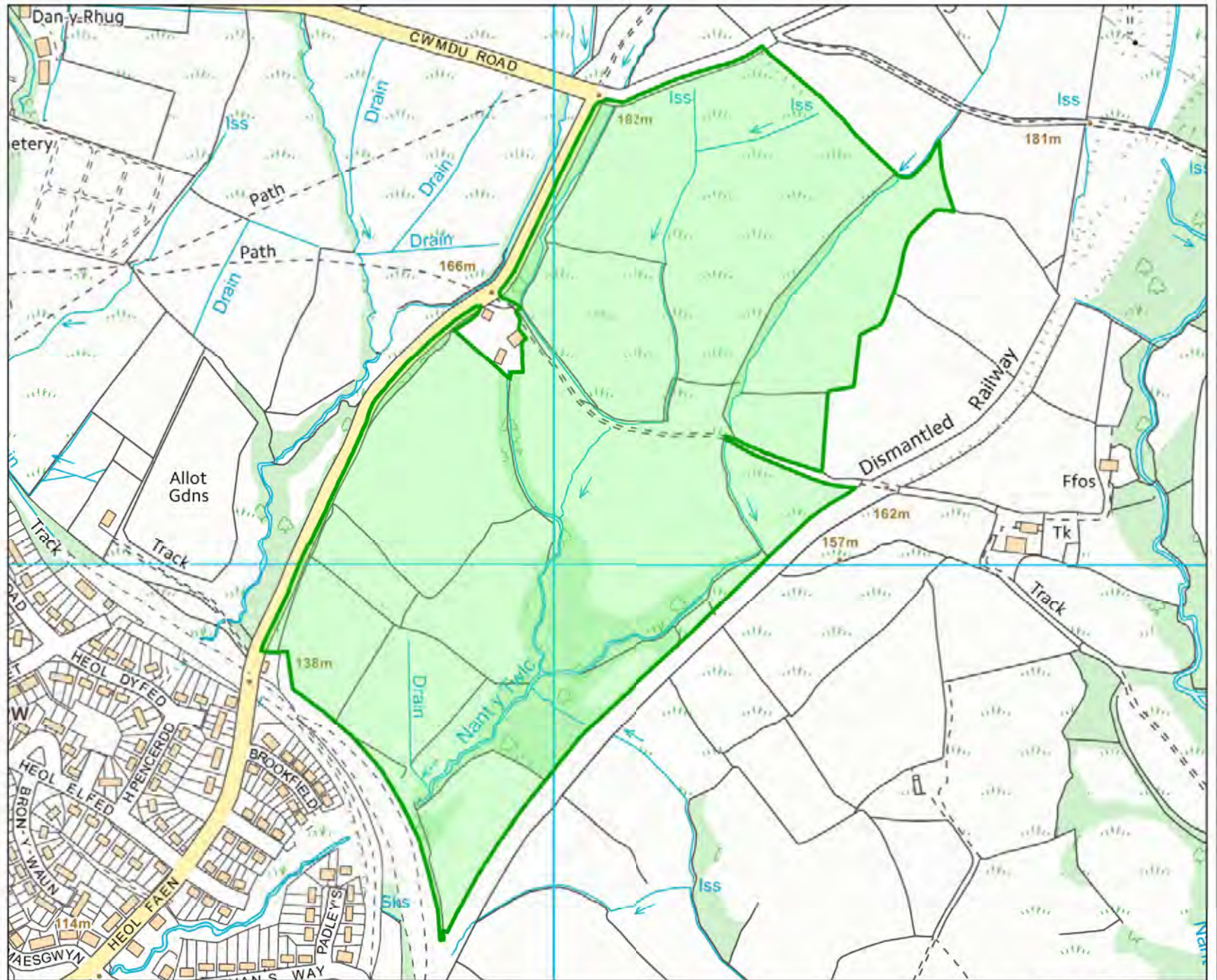
Swallow, greater spotted woodpecker, badger (hair on fence)

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary, peregrine, cuckoo, yellowhammer, kestrel, pied flycatcher, wood warbler, dipper, raven, blackbird.



**MG-7-N
Garth Grassland**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-8-M

SINC name: Nant -y-Fforest

Grid reference: SS 883 905

Area (hectares): 24.17

Survey date: 09/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

The SINC broadly follows the Nant-y-Fforest valley and contains a variety of habitats. The base of the valley contains sessile oak woodland and dry acid grassland with small patches of heath and a small area of scree. The dry grassland gives way to purple moor grass and rush pastures on higher ground, with a pond which is dominated by rushes.

Qualifying features

Lowland dry acid grassland

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Secondary features

Native woodland

Inland rock and scree

Ponds

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The grassland has a high potential to support reptiles, particularly common lizard. Ground nesting birds may also use the area as well as small mammals or larger mammals such as hares. This may draw in smaller birds of prey to hunt in the area. Amphibians are likely to use the pond for breeding.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The grassland areas of the site are grazed by moderate numbers of cattle and sheep, which appear to manage the habitat reasonably well except around bracken where grazing intensity is increased. Bracken and Himalayan balsam may become more of a problem, encroaching on acid grassland particularly and may require control.

Recommendations for future management:

- The stocking densities of the grassland areas could be reduced.
- Management of bracken to prevent encroaching onto acid grassland.
- Control of Himalayan balsam.
- Selective felling and coppicing of woodland to lift the dense canopy.
- Vegetation clearance of the pond to maintain areas of open water.
- Stone walls could be repaired to provide cover to small animals in this otherwise open habitat.

- The purple moor grass area may benefit from occasional cutting or controlled burning at intervals for several years.
- Maintaining the impeded drainage of this area is important for this habitat.

Additional information:

The woodland was not accessed for safety reasons and therefore not recorded fully.

Several areas of similar habitat lay beyond the current boundary of the SINC. These could be surveyed in the future with a view to designation.

Rights of way became confusing to follow at the far east of the site.

Landowner: Mr Robert. M Jones, Cwmdy Isaf

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, bristle bent *Agrostis curtisii*, lesser skullcap *Scutellaria minor*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, heath milkwort *Polygala serpyllifolia*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, common mouse ear *Cerastium fontanum*, compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, mouse ear hawkweed *Pilosella officinarum*, marsh pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp., marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, toad rush *Juncus buffonius*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, yellow flag iris *Iris pseudacorus*, bog asphodel *Nathecium ossifragum*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, spike rush *Eleocharis palustris*, heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*, cotton grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, star sedge *Carex echinata*, green ribbed sedge *Carex binervis*, water pepper *Polygonum hydropiper*, water starwort *Callitriche* sp., carnation sedge *Carex panacea*,

Woodland and scrub species

Sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, polypody *Polypodium vulgare*,

Faunal species

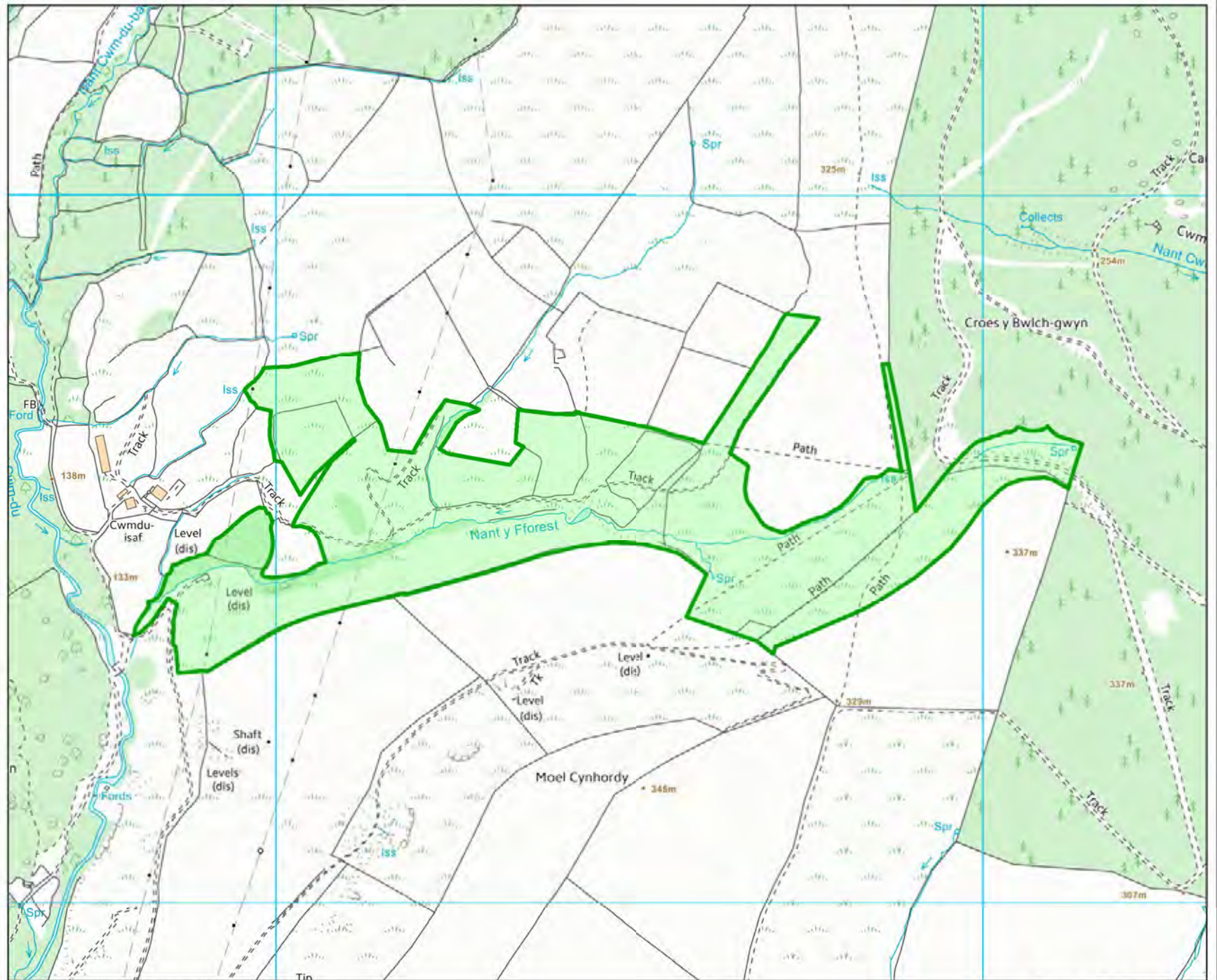
Greater spotted woodpecker, mole, meadow pipit, badger (dung pit)

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Flounced chestnut, green brindled crescent, small pearl bordered fritillary, small phoenix, shoulder striped wainscot, white ermine, skylark, spectacle Devon carpet.



**MG-8-M
Nant-y-Fforest**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-9-M

SINC name: Caergymrig

Grid reference: SS 873 906

Area (hectares): 18.10

Survey date: 08/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A site containing a variety of habitats, including purple moor grass and rush pastures, acid grassland, neutral grassland, broadleaved woodland and wet woodland as well as ponds, bracken and scrub. The site lies at the base of and half way up Garth Hill and is adjacent to the Cwmdu Woods SSSI which is designated for its sessile oak woodland.

Qualifying features

Mosaic habitats with 7 distinct habitat types with grasslands approaching SINC quality.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site could be utilised by a number of species from invertebrates and birds to reptiles and amphibians. The woodland may hold potential for small mammals such as dormice and bats.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The majority of the site is grazed lightly by horses, which appear to avoid the rush species and graze more intensively on the species between. The highest areas, acid and neutral grasslands are grazed intensively by sheep.

The pond is overgrown with willow and will require management to retain its value.

Himalayan balsam is present on the site particularly near to the former railway and near the Nant Cwmdu and may require control to prevent its spread into more valuable habitat including the adjacent SSSI.

Recommendations for future management:

- Reduction in grazing intensity in particular in the acid and neutral grasslands grazed by sheep.
- Vegetation clearance of pond to maintain open areas and prevent shading from willow.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

Adjacent similar habitats could be surveyed in the future with a view to designation.

Rights of way were confusing to follow through this site, not marked and sometimes overgrown.

Landowners: Mr Jones, Ty Maen Farm Garth & Mr Stewart Kennedy

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, soft rush *Juncus effusus*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, water pepper *Polygonum hydropiper*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, crested dog's tail *Cynosaurus cristatus*, Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*, hemlock water dropwort *Oenanthe croccata*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, cat's ear *Hypochaeris radicata*, bird's foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, red clover *Trifolium pratense*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, toad rush *Juncus buffonius*, velvet bent *Agrostis canina*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, eyebright *Euphrasia nemorosa*, heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp..

Woodland and scrub species

Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, goat willow *Salix caprea*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*,

Faunal species

Blackbird, swallow, fox, meadow pipit

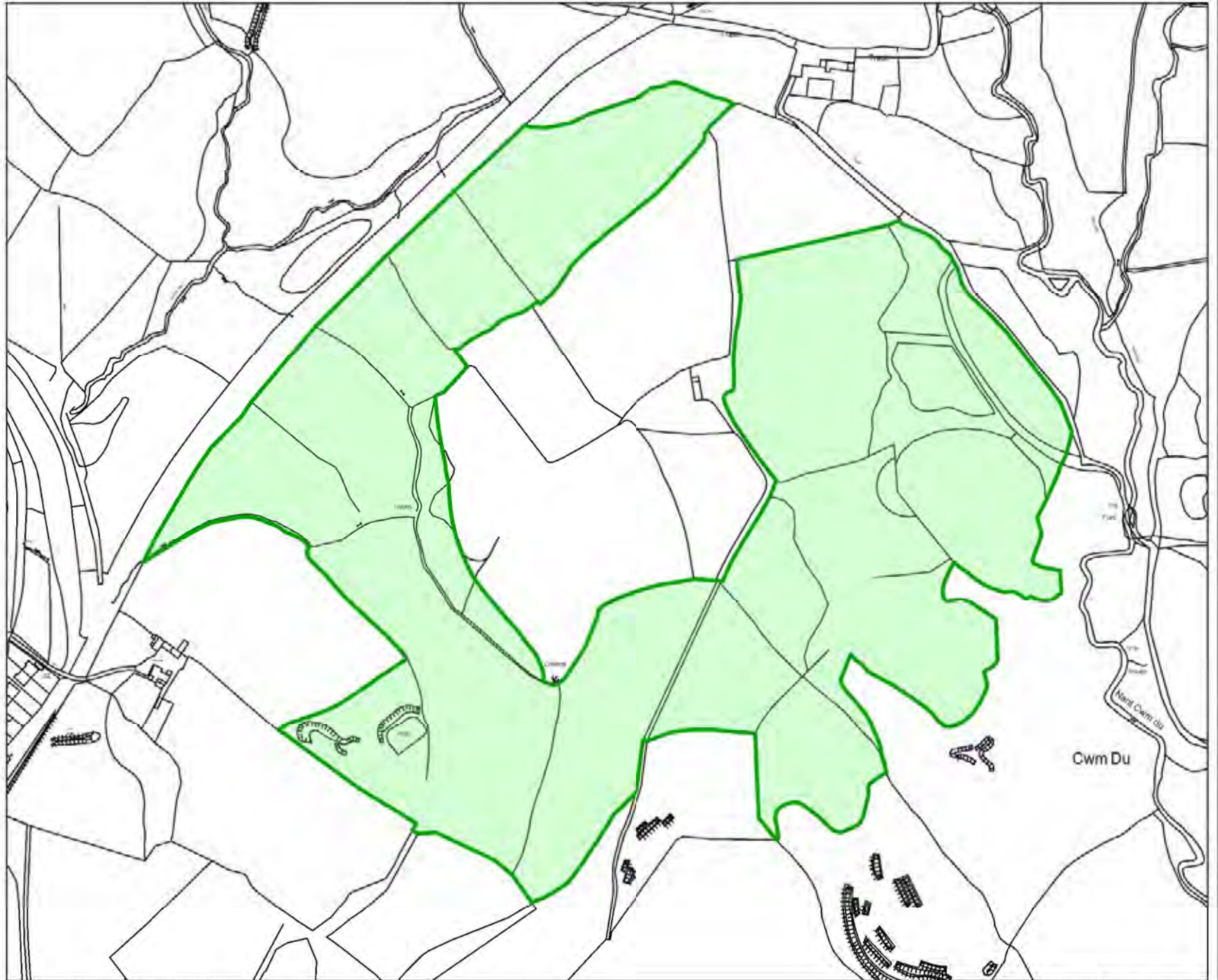
Faunal species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary, peregrine, flounced chestnut, green brindled crescent, small pearl bordered fritillary, cuckoo, yellowhammer, kestrel, pied flycatcher, shoulder striped wainscot, wood warbler, spectacle, dipper, raven, blackbird



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SINC REVIEW

MG-9-M
Caergymrig



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 15/08/2013

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Scale 1:4,000 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-10-N

SINC name: Cwm Cerdin

Grid reference: SS 848 891

Area (hectares): 17.51

Survey date: 13/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

Cwm Cerdin is made up of primarily of broadleaved woodland and scrub. The scrub areas are extremely dense, due to a lack of management but the woodland retains a moderately open canopy, with an under storey and ground flora. Bracken occurs in a few places and a stream runs through the centre of the site.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Rivers

Secondary features

Scrub and bracken

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The habitats present are likely to be of value for a range of invertebrate and bird species and the woodland could be used by small mammals such as dormice and bats. The Nant Lluest Wen is likely to support smaller fish species and occasionally otters. Amphibians and reptiles are likely to use suitable areas on scrub margins and standing water.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Little management of the woodland and scrub was evident at the time of survey. Blackthorn scrub has become quite dense in places making access difficult and the site is considered to be in decline. The woodland is in need of selective felling and coppicing while scrub is controlled throughout. Bracken areas have become very dense at the expense of the ground flora. This should be controlled by rolling or spraying to reduce the bracken vigour. In addition artificial holts could be built for otters along the river corridor and the pond reinstated. Further ponds could be created to add to the habitat diversity.

Recommendations for future management:

- Woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Management of blackthorn scrub
- Management of bracken to improve ground flora.
- In addition artificial holts could be built for otters along the river corridor.
- The pond could be reinstated and additional ponds created to improve the habitat diversity.

Additional information:

Landowners: Mr Cliff Harding, Caeremi Farm & Mr Griffiths Lleust Wen Farm, 739684 & Mr & Mrs Richards, Castell Farm, Alun Richards, Ty'n Cwm Farm.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Woodland and scrub species

Hazel *Corylus avellana*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, goat willow *S. caprea*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, wood false brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, male fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, enchanter's nightshade *Circea lutetiana*, hart's tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, wood anemone *Anemone nemorosa*, yellow pimpernel *Lysmachia nemorum*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, wavy hair grass *D. flexuosa*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, figwort *Scrophularia nodosa*, hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvaticum*, nipplewort *Lapsana communis*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, polypody *Polypodium vulgare*, dog violet *Viola riviana*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, red campion *Silene sioica*,

Faunal species

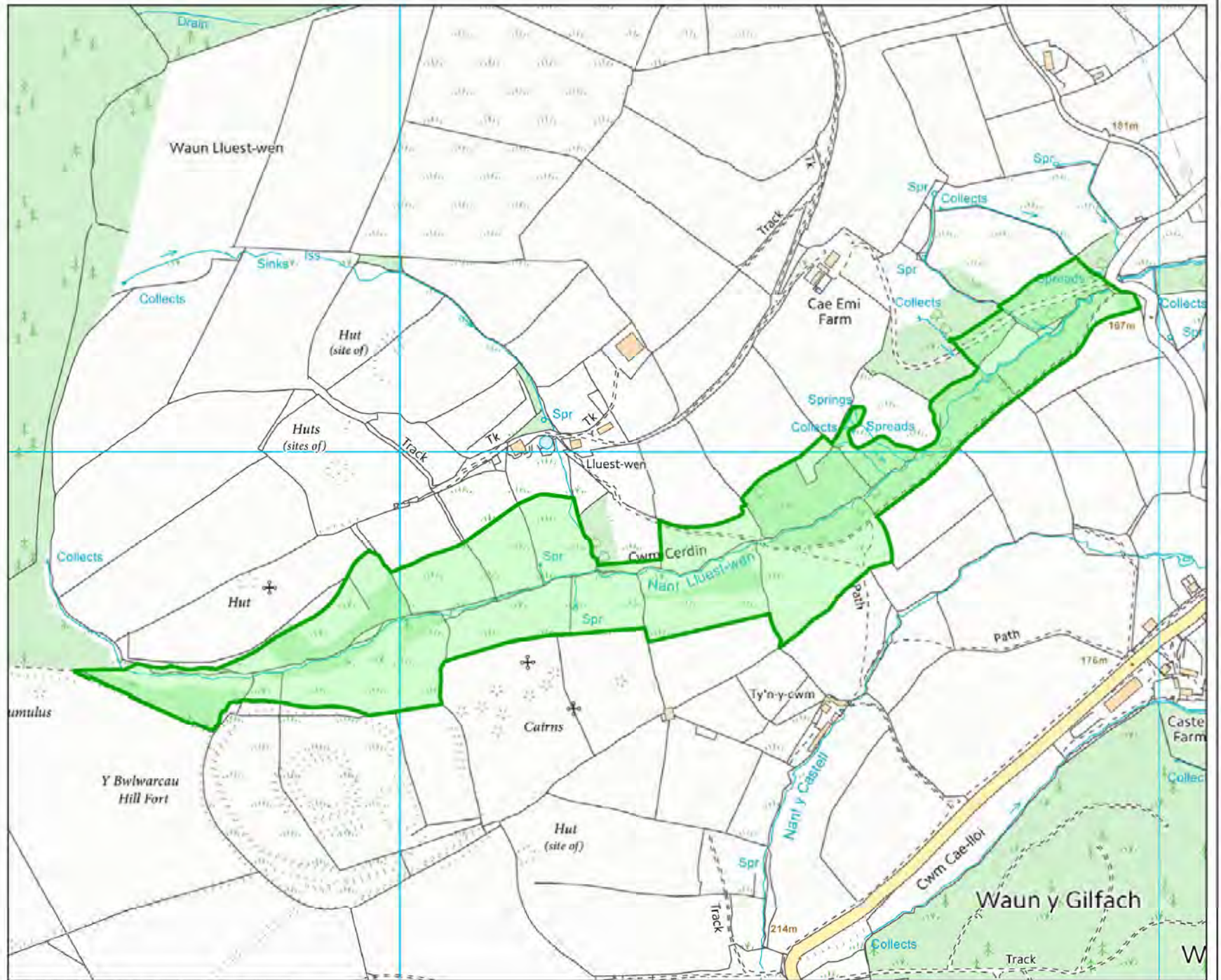
Swift, meadow pipit

Faunal species from data search (0m)

none



MG-10-N
Cwm Cerdin



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-11-M

SINC name: Cwm Sychbant

Grid reference: SS 838 899

Area (hectares): 17.36

Survey date: 16/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A comparatively large site which covers mainly forestry plantation woodland on one side of a small side valley. Other habitats included in the SINC are acid grassland with areas of marshy grassland, scrub, broadleaved woodland, bracken, a watercourse and ponds. Parts of the plantation have no ground flora, but others retain some indicator species.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Lowland dry acidic grassland

Rivers

Secondary features

Scrub

Bracken

Coniferous woodland

Neutral grassland

Ponds

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

As this site has such a diversity of habitats, it is likely to support a diversity of invertebrate and bird species, as well as several amphibians and reptiles including adder. The tall conifer plantation is likely to provide undisturbed nesting areas for larger birds of prey. The ground flora of the conifer plantation includes a diversity of fungi, which could be surveyed and documented.

A Mustelid scat was found during the survey, which is likely to be polecat.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The majority of the land is planted with commercial coniferous species. It is likely that this area will be clear-felled within the next few years, as the trees mature. Until then no management is likely as thinning has taken place some years in the past, but further thinning would be beneficial. Off-road motorcycles regularly use the area of woodland closest to the lane. Erosion has occurred and may be a result of motorcycles. Their use of the site should be eliminated to prevent further erosion, particularly to watercourse banks. If or when plantation is clear felled, broadleaved trees should be planted in their place to enhance the woodland ground flora still present. Fallow deer roam freely through these woods but appear to be at low enough densities not to cause any damage.

Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam are present in some areas of the site and is recommended for removal to maintain the biodiversity value of the site. The ponds at the far west of the site should partially cleared periodically to maintain at least some open water with emergent and marginal vegetation. Further ponds could be dug along the valley to increase the habitat diversity of the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Further thinning of the conifer woodland
- Motorcycle use of the site should be eliminated to prevent further erosion, particularly to watercourse banks.
- If or when plantation is clear felled, broadleaved trees should be planted in their place to enhance the woodland ground flora still present.
- Control of invasive species
- Rotational pond clearance and creation of further ponds.

Additional information:

It was not possible for the surveyor to access the ponds safely and this area was not recoded in detail.

Adjacent areas of habitat appear to be of a similar quality and could be surveyed with a view to designation.

Local people reported possible escaped species; eagle owl and a big cat.

Landowner: Forest Enterprise

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, toad rush *Juncus buffonius*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, bell heather *E. cinerea*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*.

Woodland and scrub species

Commercially grown conifer species, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, goat willow *S.caprea*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, alder *Alnus glutinosa*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp.

Faunal species

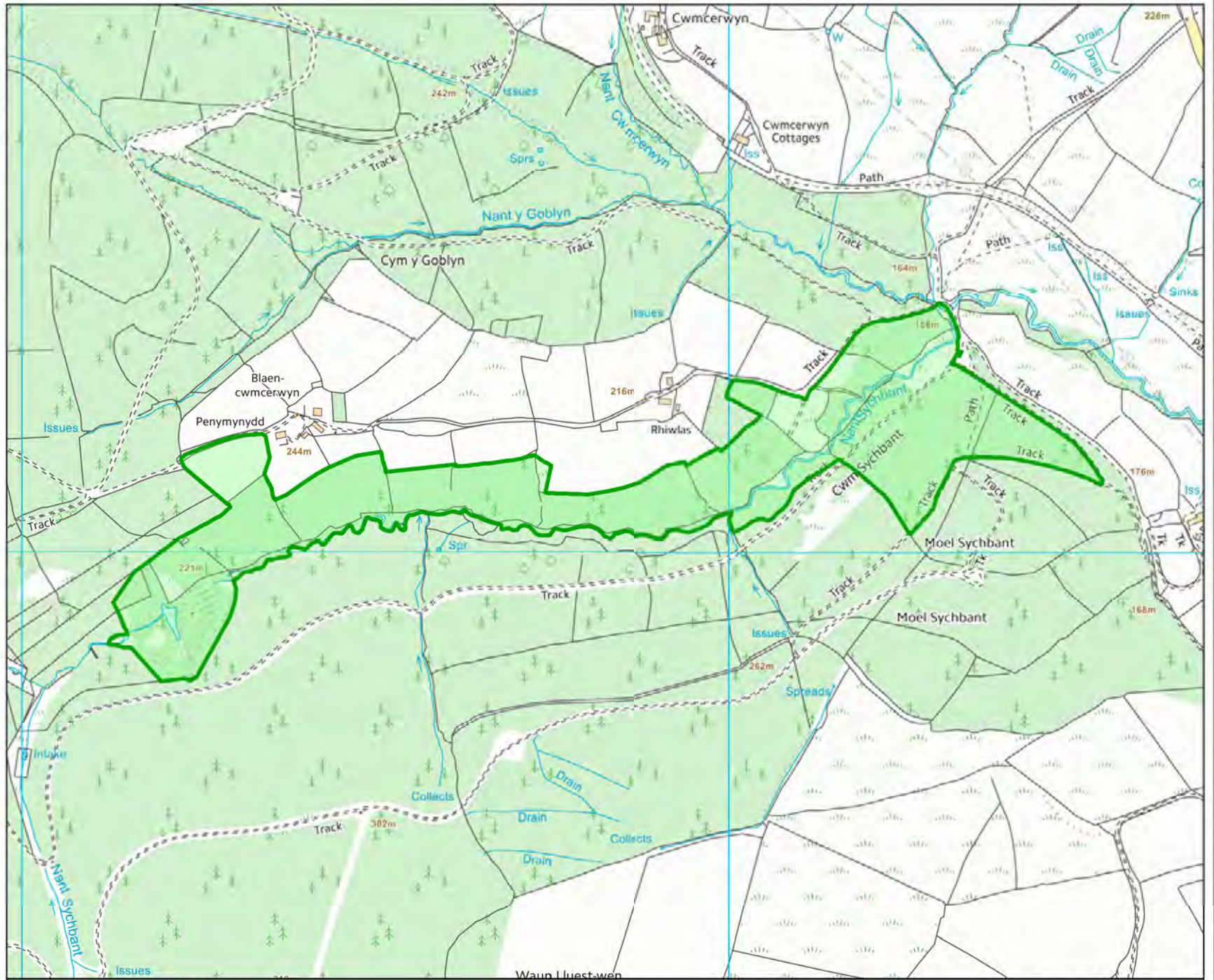
Raven, blackbird buzzard, tree creeper, fallow deer

Species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary, Atlantic salmon, slow worm, bluebell, eel, brown trout,



MG-11-M
Cwm Sychbant



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-12-M

SINC name: Y Parc (South)

Grid reference: SS 846 942

Area (hectares): 13.81

Survey date: 16/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A site composed mainly of broadleaved woodland some of which has been identified as of ancient woodland origin following the river corridor of the Nant Sychbant. The woodland is drier at the top of the valley and wet near the stream. The second largest habitat area is purple moor grass pasture with a diversity of species. The pasture becomes more rush dominated to the western end. Bracken is found on the upper slopes with a diverse ground flora, with areas of scrub and neutral grassland.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

River

Secondary features

Lowland meadows

Scrub

Bracken

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site holds potential for numerous species, particularly reptiles including adder and grass snake, but also a diversity of invertebrates and possibly ground nesting birds. The stream, Nant Sychbant holds potential for many fish species including salmonid, eel, bullhead and small lamprey species. Otters are likely to use the stream for foraging and the banks for lying up. The woodland could be used by small mammals such as dormice and bats.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Little evidence of any woodland management was noted during the site visit apart from accidental cow grazing where they have passed through a hole in the fence. It is likely that deer browse the shrubs and ground flora since they pass through the woodland. The purple moor grass and rush pastures appear to be mainly unmanaged as they are not fenced from the road. Informal recreation takes place here regularly in the form of walking and horse riding. Grazing takes place in the field nearest the housing, most likely by horses.

Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam are present and spreading through the site. These species threaten the biodiversity interest of the site.

Recommendations for future survey:

- Fencing repairs to prevent livestock and deer grazing in the woodland.
- Selective felling and the re-introduction of coppicing.
- The impeded drainage will need to be maintained.

- Control of bracken through spraying or rolling to enhance ground flora diversity.
- Control of invasive species.
- The purple moor grass area has become quite species poor and should be managed by either cutting or controlled burning.
- The grassland appears to be enriched and could benefit from mowing and the removal of cuttings, with less intensive grazing.

Additional information:

Rights of way through this site were confusing at best and overgrown in places

Landowner: Mr Raymond and Mr Mark Filer, Cwmcerwyn Farm

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Water mint *Mentha aquatica*, meadow sweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp., greater tussock sedge *Carex paniculata*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, common valerian *Valeriana officinalis*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum*, spike rush *Eleocharis palustris*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, carnation sedge *Carex panacea*, yellow rattle *Rhinanthus minor*, heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*.

Woodland and scrub species

Sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, alder *Alnus glutinosa*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, goat willow *Salix caprea*, guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, wavy hair grass *Deschampsia flexuosa*, goldenrod *Solidago vigaurea*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, red campion *Silene dioica*, tufted hair grass *D. cespitosa*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, yellow pimpernel *Lysmachia nemorum*, wood sedge *Carex sylvatica*, remote sedge *C. remota*, enchanter's nightshade *Circea lutetiana*, hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, wood horsetail *Equisetum sylvaticum*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, greater stitchwort *Stellaria hollostea*,

Faunal species

Greater spotted woodpecker

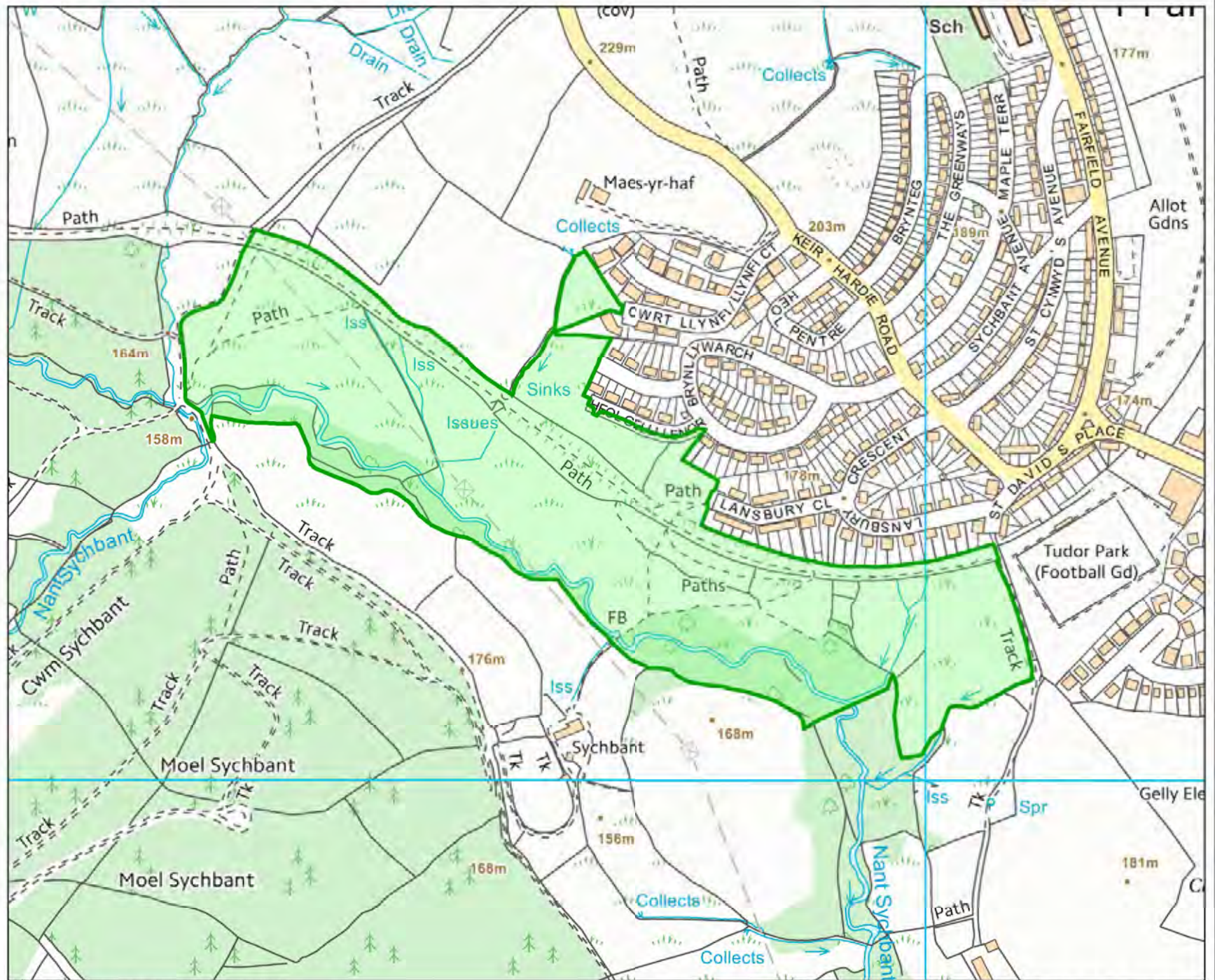
Faunal species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary, Atlantic salmon, slow worm, bluebell, brown trout.



**BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW**

MG-12-M
Y Parc (South)



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 06/08/2013

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Scale 1:5,000 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-13-N

SINC name: Cemetery Fields

Grid reference: SS 867 913

Area (hectares): 14.13

Survey date: 07/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

The site is primarily purple moor grass pasture, with small areas of dry acid grassland and heath. A small flush area is dominated by sphagnum species near the centre of the site and a small woodland area runs along the stream to the east.

Qualifying features

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Native woodland

Rivers

Secondary features

Scrub

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site has the potential to support a variety of invertebrate species including marsh fritillary butterfly, reptiles, amphibians and birds. Small mammals may be present and otters are likely to occasionally use the stream. The watercourse may be important for aquatic invertebrates, riparian birds and smaller fish species.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Intentional management of the council owned part of the site is restricted to the paths, while the area shows signs of recent arson. Locals reported that the fields are burned every year by children and youths. Uncontrolled, widespread burning annually will have had a serious negative impact on the breeding success of marsh fritillary. Also reported was the amount of devil's bit scabious which has been shaded out due to scrub and Himalayan balsam encroachment. Parts of the fields were used to tip hardcore material.

The privately owned area of this site is lightly grazed by cattle.

Much fly-tipping has occurred into the woodland from the lane into the stream.

Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam are present on the site and starting to impact on the biodiversity value of the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Remove tipped material and try to prevent further tipping.
- Control of invasive species.
- Management of scrub encroachment.

- Re-instating low level grazing on this habitat area is likely to have a beneficial impact, and possibly the use of controlled irregular burning.
- A slight reduction in stock levels within the privately owned land might be of benefit.

Additional information:

Some adjacent fields appeared to be of similar habitat and could be surveyed with a view to designation.

Landowner: Mr Len Fields & Mr Stewart Kennedy, Porthcawl

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Ribbed meadow *Mellilotus officinalis*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, wild carrot *Daucus carota*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, red clover *Trifolium pratense*, red bartsia *Odonites verna*, tufted vetch *Vicia cracca*, common mouse ear *Cerastium fontanum*, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, rosebay willowherb *Chamaenerion angustifolium*, hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, ragwort *Senecio jacobea*, black knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, toadflax *Linaria vulgaris*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp., ling *Calluna vulgaris*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, spike rush *Eleocharis palustris*, green ribbed sedge *Carex binervis*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, yellow flag iris *Iris pseudacorus*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, sneezewort *Achillea ptarmica*, common valerian *Valeriana officinalis*, meadow sweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, hemlock water dropwort *Oenanthe croccata*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*.

Woodland and scrub species

Hazel *Corylus avellana*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, alder *Alnus glutinosa*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, hart's tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, remote sedge *Carex sylvatica*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, golden rod *Solidago virgaurea*, guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*, red campion *Silene dioica*

Faunal species

Blackbird, buzzard,

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

MG-13-N
Cemetery Fields



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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-14-M

SINC name: Nant Cwm-Du-Bach

Grid reference: SS 878 912

Area (hectares): 11.18

Survey date: 09/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

The SINC covers two small wooded valleys which border improved pastures and forestry plantation. The woodlands have a closed canopy and in places a very dense understorey, but retain a diversity of indicator species. The woodland at the base of the valleys is much wetter than that of the slopes and is dominated by alder rather than oak. Two streams and a pond are also included in the designated area.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Rivers

Secondary features

Scrub

Ponds

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The habitats within the designated area are suitable for a diversity of invertebrates and birds, as well as small mammals including bats and dormice. The streams are suitable for small fish species and therefore otters are likely to forage occasionally. The pond was noted to have several dragonfly species around it and amphibians are likely to breed here.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodlands are fenced in places but generally very steep sided and thickly vegetated. The canopy is dense for much of the site and no signs of active management were noted. Both Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam were found on the site, primarily around the streams. Himalayan balsam has covered over one field and compromised the biodiversity value.

Recommendations for future management:

- The woodland could benefit from some selective felling and coppicing where appropriate.
- Control of invasive species
- Management and control of bracken and scrub, particularly where this borders grassland habitats.
- Artificial otter holts could be added to provide otter resting sites near to the river.
- The pond along the driveway to the farm is well managed by the current owners, but should be maintained with some open water at all times, by partially clearing vegetation from different areas in rotation.

Additional information:

Areas of similar habitat were highlighted in areas adjacent to the SINC. These could be surveyed with a view to designation in the future. A field included in the designation is now dominated by Himalayan balsam.

Most westerly fork of the woodland was impassable. Rights of way are neglected and overgrown.

A waterfall was noted in the woodland area nearest the Cwmdu Canol access track.

Landowners: Mr Stewart Kennedy (also Ffos Farm) Porthcawl? Simon Jones, Cwmdu Canol Farm.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Woodland and scrub species

Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, downy birch *Betula pubescens*, peunculate oak *Quercus robur*, alder *Alnus glutinosa*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, sessile oak *Q. petraea*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, sheep's fescue *Festuca oviana*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, enchanter's nightshade *Circea lutetiana*, meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, dog violet *Viola riviniana*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, wavy bittercress *Cardamine flexuosa*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, yellow pimpernel *Lysmachia nemorum*, common cow wheat *Melampyrum pratense*, wood horsetail *Equisteum sylvaticum*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, opposite leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, red campion *Silene dioica*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, greater stitchwort *Stellaria hollostea*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, broad leaved willowherb *Epilobium montanum*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, puff ball fungi, toad rush *Juncus buffonius*, male fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, wood false brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, golden rod *Solidago vigaurea*,

Aquatic species

Common pondweed *Potamogeton natans*, reedmace *Typha latifolia*, branched bur-reed *Sparganium erectum*, hemlock water dropwort *Oenathe croccata*, brooklime *Veronica beccabunga*

Faunal species

Swallow, badger (prints)

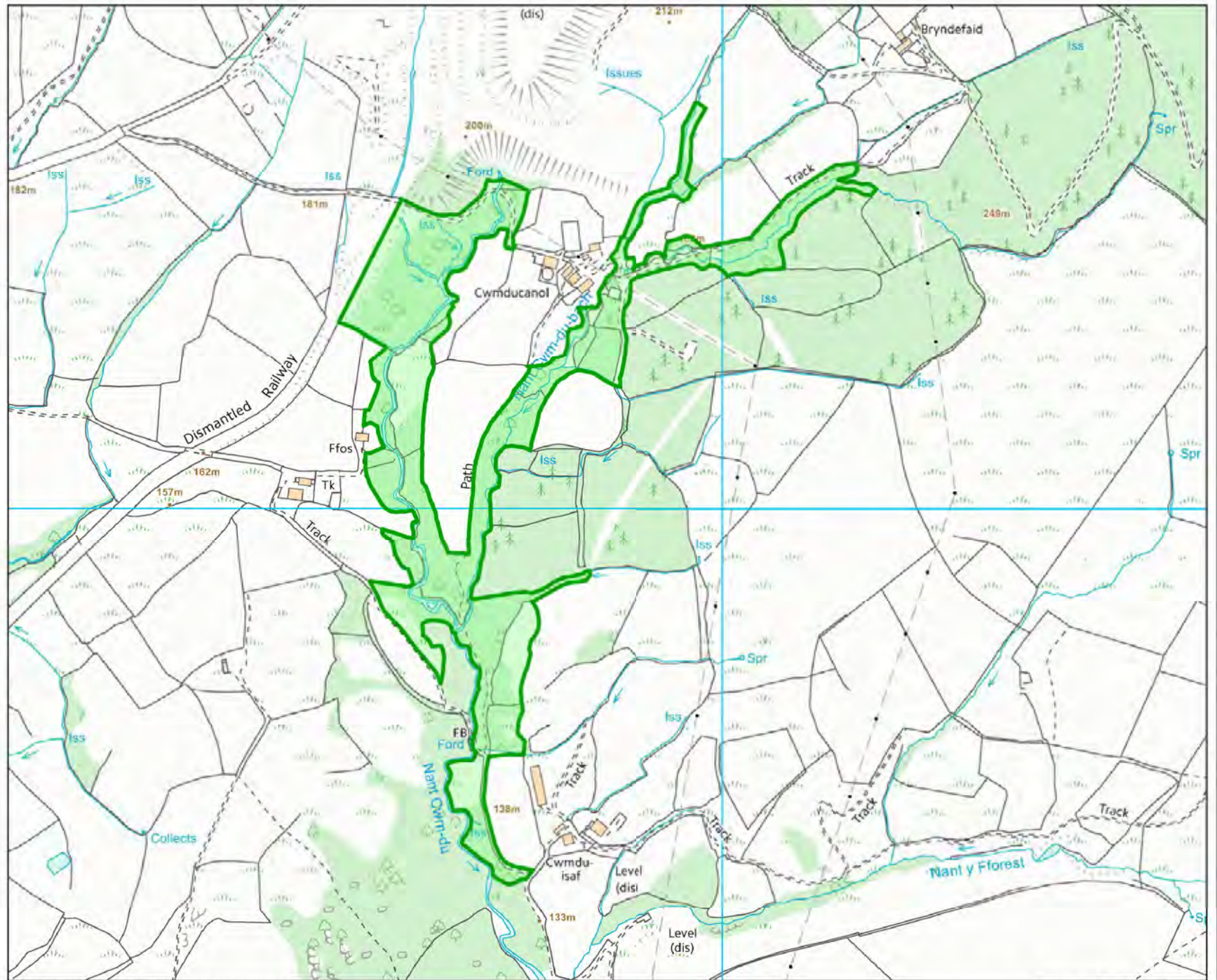
Faunal species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary, peregrine, flounced chestnut, green brindled crescent, small pearl bordered fritillary, cuckoo, small phoenix, yellowhammer, kestrel, pied flycatcher, shoulder striped wainscot, wood warbler, white ermine, spectacle, raven, dipper, Devon carpet, blackbird.



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

MG-14-M
Nant Cwm-du-bach



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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-15-M

SINC name: Cwm Cerwyn

Grid reference: SS 842 907

Area (hectares): 10.54

Survey date: 16/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

The site is made up primarily of rush pasture with a stream and a small area of woodland to the south including plantation woodland.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Secondary features

Lowland meadows

Rivers

Plantation woodland

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Local people reported adder nearby adjacent to the houses, as well as grass snake. Also reported were dormice and goshawk, but were sceptical about salmonid species in the immediate area.

The site overall is suitable for a number of invertebrate and bird species, including ground nesting birds. Small mammals including brown hare and vole could be present. Otters are likely to use the stream to the south of the site and possibly use the smaller watercourse on the site occasionally.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The fields are lightly grazed by cattle and the woodland area showed no signs of active management. Part of it is used for informal recreation.

Japanese knotweed is particularly dominant along the route of the former railway line on the site and is having an impact on the biodiversity as it spreads through the woodland habitat. Himalayan balsam is also present and beginning to have a similar effect.

Fly-tipping at the crossing of the lane and former railway line is common.

Recommendations for future management:

- Woodland would benefit from selective felling and the re-introduction of rotational coppicing.
- Control of invasive species.
- Fly-tipping at the crossing of the lane and former railway line is common and should be removed regularly, with public education regarding waste disposal.
- The fields could benefit from a decrease in stocking densities, or occasional mowing.

Additional information:

One area within the SINC was cut for hay at the time of survey and could not be accurately assessed.

Adjacent woodland and grassland habitats appeared to be of good quality and may be investigated in the future with a view to designation.

Known locally as 'the Waun'.

Landowner: Raymond & Mark Filer, Cwmcerwyn Farm, Maesteg/ Mr A Fawcett, Brynmawr Farm, Maesteg.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp., greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, carnation sedge *Carex panacea*, yellow sedge *C. viridula*, water purslane *Lythrum portua*, imperforate St John's wort *Hypericum montanum*, meadow vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis*, black knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, Marsh woundwort *Stachys palustris*.

Woodland and scrub species

Sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, goat willow *Salix caprea*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, wild angelica, goldenrod *Solidago virgaurea*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, figwort *Scrophularia nodosa*, greater stitchwort *Stellaria hollostea*, red campion *Silene dioica*, yellow pimpernel *Lysmachia nemorum*.

Faunal species

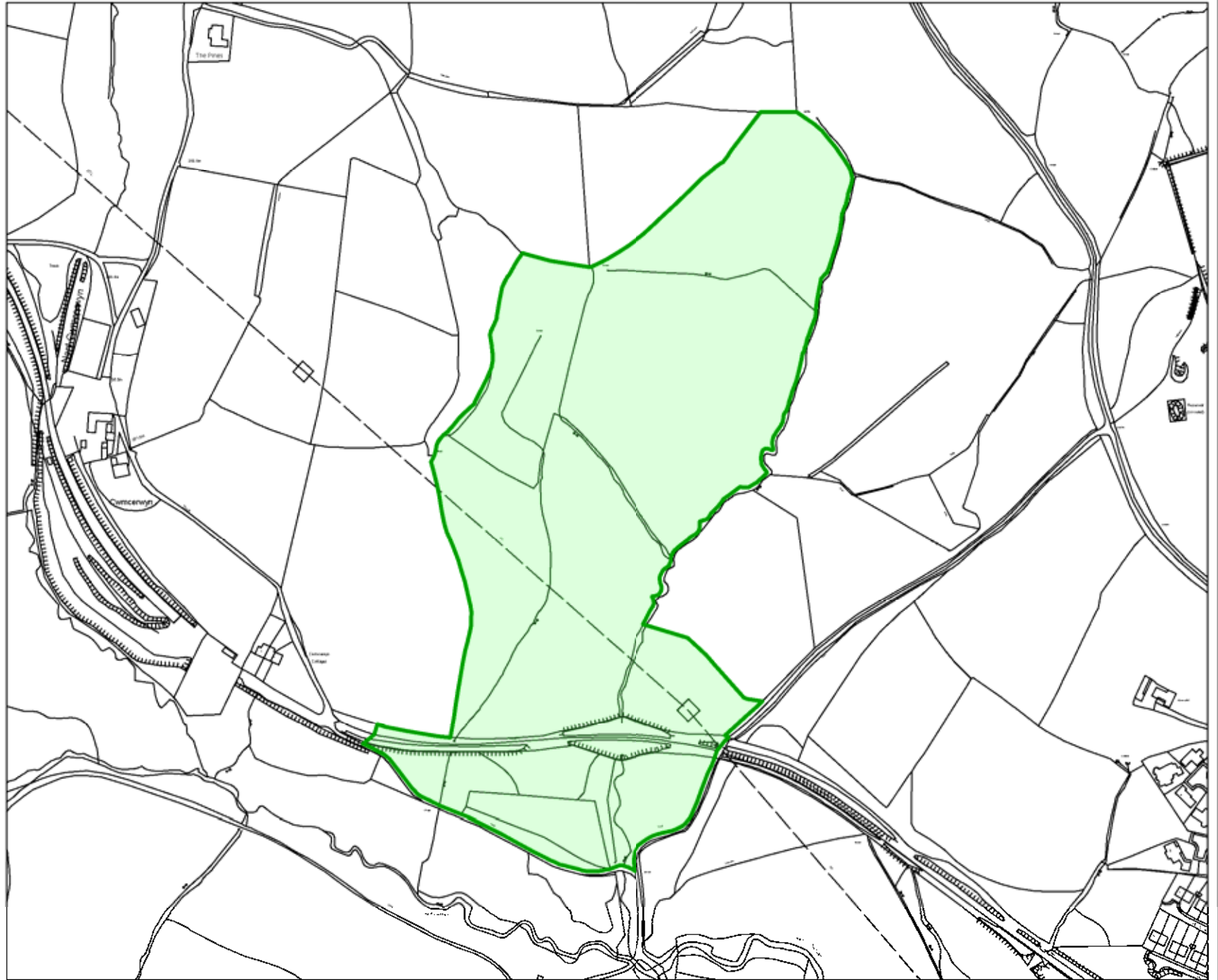
Faunal species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary, slow worm, bluebell, brown trout



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

MG-15-N
Cwm Cerwyn



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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-16-N

SINC name: Craig Talyfan

Grid reference: SS 859 919

Area (hectares): 2.46

Survey date: 07/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A small site composed mainly of woodland and wet woodland which follows the path of three small watercourses. Bracken and scrub feature in the sites as well as ponds. Much of the land surrounding this site is reclaimed after industry. The mature trees pre-date the reclamation planting and are still fairly isolated from similar habitat.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Bracken and scrub

Secondary features

Rivers

Ponds

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site has potential to support a diversity of species including invertebrates and birds to mammals including bats and possibly otters. The ponds are suitable for breeding amphibians including great crested newts.

Many nest boxes had been put up in the trees.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The ponds appear unmanaged and suffering with a build-up of leaf litter, fly tipping and overgrowth of vegetation. The pond at the southern part of the site is mostly dried up. The middle section of the woodland is fenced and therefore not grazed, while the top section is open and grazed by sheep.

Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam are both present on the site and may begin to compromise the wet woodland interest if allowed to spread.

Recommendations for future management:

- Management of ponds to reduce shading.
- Creation of ponds to replace the pond that has dried up and to increase habitat diversity.
- Fencing of the top section of the woodland to prevent grazing by sheep.
- Removal of tipped material.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

The footpath has officially been diverted away from the front of the house.

Landowner: Mr Henry Rhys, Cwrt y Mwnws, Maesteg.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub species

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, enchanter's nightshade *Circea lutetiana*, dog violet *Viola riviniana*, scaly male fern *Dryopteris affinis*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, yellow pimpernel *Lysmachia nemorum*, soft shield fern *Polystichum setiferum*, hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, water mint *Mentha aquatica*, wood false brome *Brachipodium sylvaticum*, germander speedwell *Veronica chamaedrys*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, common sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, soft rush *Juncus effusus*, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, polypody *Polypodium vulgare*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, round leaved water crowfoot *Ranunculus omiophilus*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, Water startwort *Callitriche* sp., opposite leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysplenium oppositifolium*

Faunal species

Mole, swallow, house martin.

Faunal species from data search (0m)

none



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

MG-16-N
Craig Tal-y-Fan



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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-17-N

SINC name: Llwydarth Woods

Grid reference: SS 859 901

Area (hectares): 4.10

Survey date: 16/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

This site is composed almost entirely of broadleaved woodland on the western side of the Llynfi valley. The canopy of the woodland is quite closed and bramble is dominant in the ground flora. However it retains representative indicator species, but not in great abundance.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Secondary features

Scrub

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Mr Roberts reported redwing, spotted flycatcher and fieldfare at the site. He also reported having buzzards nesting here and a possible badger sett, although he'd not seen it himself.

The woodland is suitable for a range of invertebrate and bird species as well as small mammals.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodland is fenced from stock animals which are periodically kept in adjacent fields, although in the past animals were allowed to graze under the canopy. Bramble as a ground layer is dominant under a dense canopy and could be controlled. However unofficial paths through the wood are kept clear.

The woodland is used for informal recreation, although on private land.

Landowners are interested in wildlife but would find it difficult to manage the site themselves.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Control of bramble scrub.

Additional information:

Adjacent grasslands could be of interest and surveyed with a view to designation, if appropriate.

Landowner: Mrs Katherine Roberts, Llwydarth Farm, Cwmfelin, CF349HB

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub species

Sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, wood sage *Teucrium scorodonia*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, red campion *Silene dioica*, greater stitchwort *Stellaria holstea*, scaly male fern *Dryopteris affinis*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, enchanter's nightshade *Circea lutetiana*, yellow pimpernel *Lysmachia nemorum*.

Faunal species

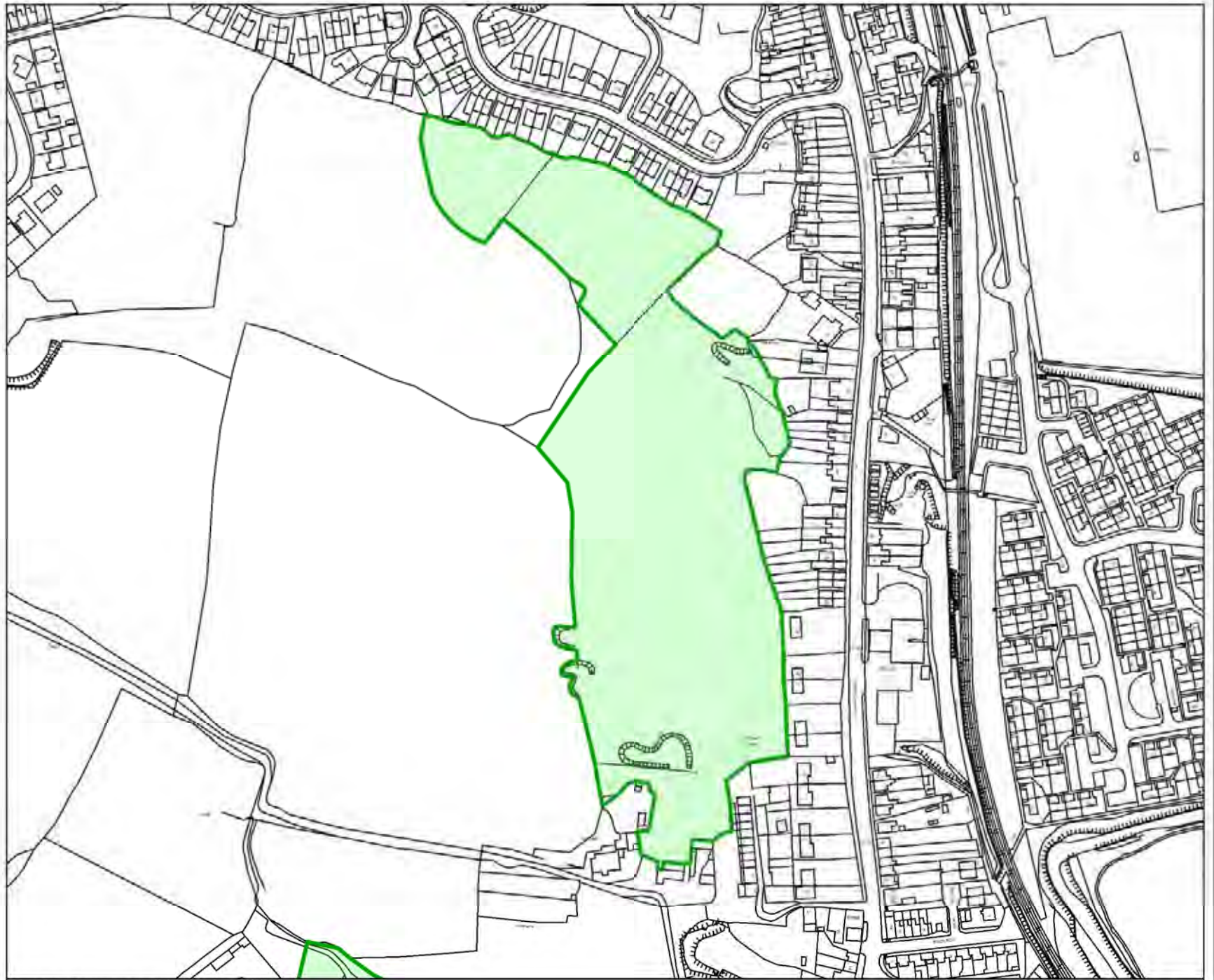
Faunal species from data search (0m)

(Bullhead, Atlantic salmon, eel, brown trout?) Golden ringed dragonfly



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

MG-17-N
Llwydarth Road



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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-18-M

SINC name: Tudor West

Grid reference: SS 850 940

Area (hectares): 3.84

Survey date: 06/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A relatively small site on a steep east facing slope contains a series of different grassland habitats and a small acid flush. The grasslands are mainly acid and purple moor grass or rush pasture with some broadleaved woodland and bracken.

Qualifying features

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Raised bog

Secondary features

Native woodland

Bracken

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site is likely to be of value to a range of invertebrate and bird species particularly. Reptiles such as common lizard and amphibians are also likely to be present as well as small mammals such as bank voles. Some birds of prey may visit the site.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The site was thought to be grazed a little too heavily by sheep cattle and horses. It is not fenced from adjacent open grazing land, but may be preferred by animals since shelter is nearby. Bracken was thought to be encroaching on areas of more valuable acid grassland.

Himalayan balsam is present on the site and may need to be controlled to retain the full biodiversity interest of the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Reduction in grazing intensity by livestock to encourage regeneration and provide areas of dense undergrowth to give cover for nesting birds and small mammals.
- Control of bracken to prevent encroaching onto grassland
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

No map provided of this site by BCBC, maps labelled as MG-18-M are of MG-19-M

Adjacent areas of similar habitat could be surveyed with a view to designation, while those grasslands which have been agriculturally improved and no longer qualify as SINC status might be considered for removal.

Landowner: Mr Jerome Mathias,

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Grassland flora

Heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, yellow sedge *Carex viridula*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, marsh pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, sphagnum *Sphagnum* sp, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, star sedge *Carex echinata*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, marsh violet *Viola palustris*, lesser skullcap *Scutellaria minor*, heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*, mat grass *Nardus stricta*, bog pondweed *Potamogeton polygonifolius*, round leaved water crowfoot *Ranunculus omiophylus*, bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum*, cotton grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, green ribbed sedge *Carex binervis*, spike rush *Eleocharis palustris*, yellow waxcap fungi, puff ball fungi.

Woodland and scrub species

Small leaved lime *Tilia cordata*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*,

Faunal species

Greater spotted woodpecker

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Goshawk, marsh harrier, hen harrier, merlin, peregrine, crossbill, red kite, honey buzzard, redwing, fieldfare, skylark, tree pipit, lesser redpoll, linnet, small heath, cuckoo, reed bunting, kestrel, black headed gull, grasshopper warbler, house sparrow, golden plover, hedge accentor, buff ermine, starling, song thrush, ring ouzel, cinnabar, swift, grey heron, goldfinch, siskin, raven, house martin, wheatear, chiffchaff, whinchat, garden warbler, blackbird.



MG-18-M
Tudor West



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-19-M

SINC name: Sychbant Fields

Grid reference: SS841900

Area (hectares): 2.32

Survey date: 8 February 2012

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

A mosaic of upland habitats on a north-east facing slope that had largely been shaded by coniferous plantation (Larch, Pine and a few Sitka Spruce). The conifers had mostly been felled shortly before the survey, but had not yet removed from the site. Several young Rowan and Sessile Oak trees have been left standing, and the northern slope supports a mix of Birch and Willow scrub. The south-western boundary is formed by a steep, rocky channel which is fringed by old, moss-covered Sessile Oak trees. The ground flora beneath most of the trees is mainly dominated by Common Bent and mosses, particularly *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Rhytidiadelphus loreus* and *Dicranum scoparium*, with occasional Wood Sorrel and Bilberry. The steeper, northern slope also includes several damp flushes, with locally abundant *Polytrichum commune* and *Sphagnum fimbriatum*. A more open habitat in the north of the area supports locally abundant Bracken with scattered trees and patches of damp grassland and rushes. The south-eastern part of the site includes a wide forestry track with dry heath (mainly Bell Heather) and acid grassland at its margins, bordered to the south by relatively sparse conifers in tussocky Purple Moor-grass, with occasional Heather, Bilberry, Cross-leaved Heath and Devil's-bit Scabious. The whole site is criss-crossed by deer trails, and several deer were seen during the survey.

Qualifying features

Mosaic of coniferous plantation, broadleaved woodland, acid grassland, heath, scrub and marshy grassland.

Secondary features

Bracken. Rock outcrops. Earth banks. Flushes. Stream channel (seasonally dry).

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to be used by foraging bats. Several of the older Sessile Oaks have potential to provide bat roosting sites.

The open heath and grassland areas are likely to support populations of reptiles.

Likely to support upland woodland birds (e.g. Pied Flycatcher, Redstart). The clear-felled area has potential to support Nightjar.

Potential to support locally uncommon bryophytes and lichens.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Most of the conifers have recently been clear-felled, but the felled trees have not yet been removed. The area has high potential for restoration to Sessile Oakwood or heath vegetation after the timber has been extracted. Ideally, the timber should be removed as soon as possible and the area should not be replanted with conifers.

The area appears to support a moderate density of deer. Deer grazing does not appear to be a problem and may be beneficial in limiting scrub encroachment in the open heath and grassland habitats.

Bracken has potential to expand into the clear-felled areas, and it may be beneficial to control it in the longer term, to favour native woodland or heath vegetation.

The tracks appear to be regularly used by off-road motorcyclists. This doesn't appear to be causing damage to the adjoining habitats, and in some areas may actually be helping to prevent scrub encroachment.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continue with removal of conifers, but allow natural regeneration of heath, or replant with Sessile Oak to create a broadleaved woodland.
- Local Bracken control, particularly if it becomes dominant after removal of conifers.
- Occasional cutting back of scrub on woodland rides, to maintain mix of heath and grassland vegetation.

Additional information:

A high proportion of the site was difficult to survey because of the recently felled conifers, so the inspection involved walking the boundary and unforested habitats and making occasional spot-checks into the felled area to examine the ground flora.

Some of the low-diversity scrub, plantation and bracken habitats may not meet the SINC selection criteria themselves, but are included as secondary features within the mosaic, and to provide continuity with the adjacent SINC.

It is likely that other parts of the wider forestry area also meet the SINC selection criteria.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland / scrub tree and shrub species: *Larix sp.*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Pinus cf nigra*, *Picea sitchensis*, *Quercus petraea*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Betula pendula*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Corylus avellana*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Salix cinerea*.

Woodland / scrub ground flora species: *Oxalis acetosella*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Hedera helix*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Galium saxatile*, *Solidago virgaurea*, *Callitriche sp.*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Holcus mollis*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus tenuis*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Rhytidiadelphus loreus*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Mnium hornum*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Dicranum majus*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Sphagnum fimbriatum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Plagiomnium affine*, *Plagiothecium undulatum*, *Hookeria lucens*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Diplophyllum albicans*, *Pellia sp.*, *Lophocolea bidentata*.

Prominent epiphytes on the older Oaks include *Polypodium vulgare*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Ulota bruchii*, *Metzgeria furcata*, *Frullania dilatata*, *Evernia prunastri*, *Usnea subfloridana*, *Parmotrema perlatum*, *Parmelia sulcata*, *Platismatia glauca*, *Cladonia cf coniocraea*.

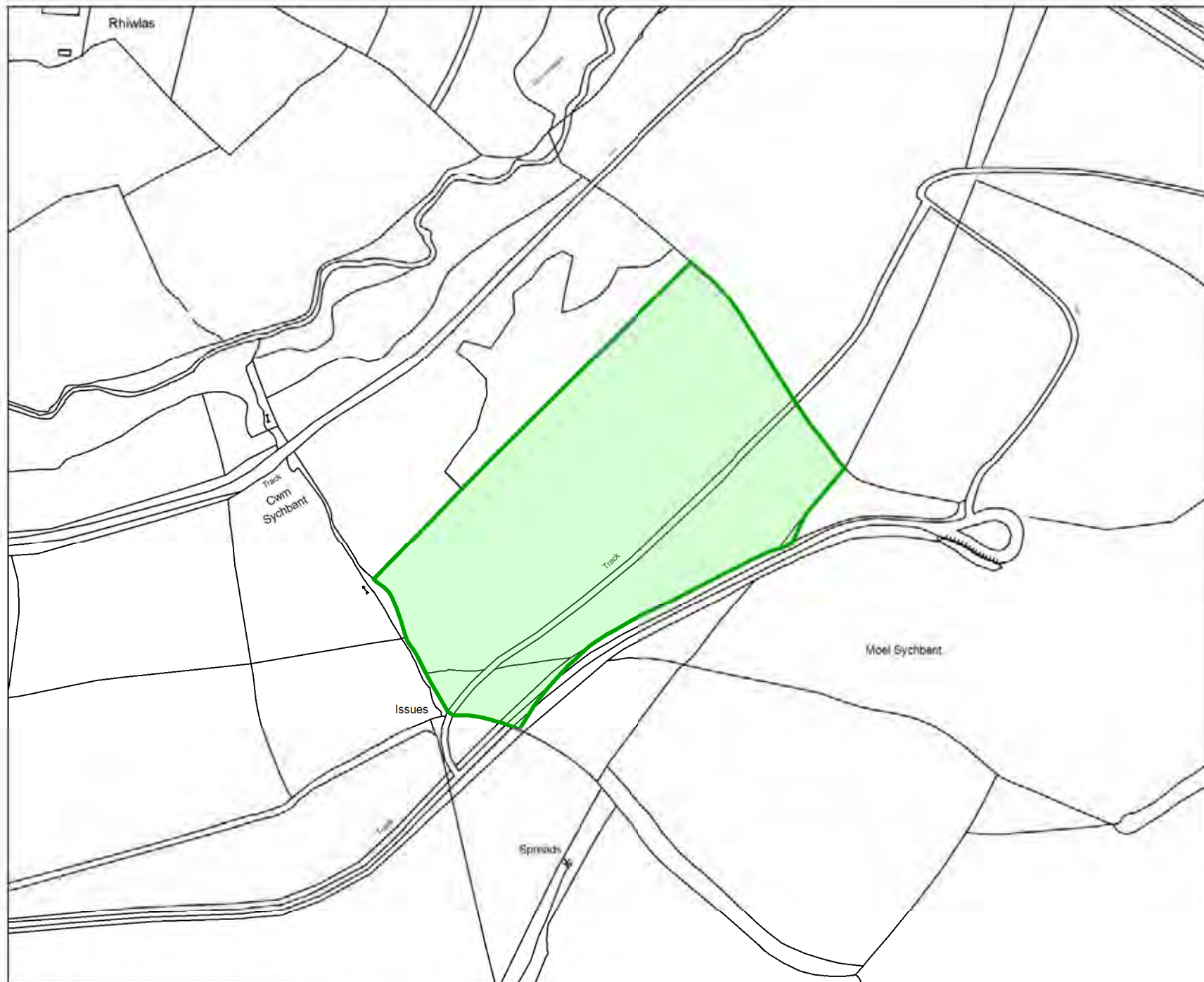
Heath/ acid grassland/tracksides species: *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica cinerea*, *Erica tetralix*, *Ulex gallii*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Rubus idaeus*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Hypericum pulchrum*, *Galium saxatile*, *Pilosella officinarum*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Chamerion angustifolium*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Veronica officinalis*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Nardus stricta*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Luzula multiflora*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus articulatus*, *Juncus tenuis*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Plagiothecium undulatum*, *Didymodon fallax*.

Fauna observations: Fallow Deer (live sightings), Badger (latrine), Raven, Treecreeper, Crossbill (flying over), Coal Tit, Wren, Robin.

Additional species noted from desk study: Marsh Fritillary (2002), Salmon, Slow Worm, Bluebell, Brown/ Sea Trout, Holly Blue, Bog Asphodel, Purple Hairstreak, Devil's-bit Scabious, Common Dog Violet, Pipistrelle (2006, 100m from boundary), Cuckoo (2011, 100m from boundary), Nightjar (2002, 100m from boundary), Barn Owl (2003, 100m from boundary), Reed Bunting (2009, 100m from boundary).



MG-19-M
Sychbant Fields



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MG-20-N

SINC name: St John's Colliery Field

Grid reference: SS 871 914

Area (hectares): 0.86

Survey date: 07/09/2011

Surveyor name: Rebecca East

Summary description

A very small site which holds similar biodiversity interest as its neighbouring sites. Purple moor grass and rush pasture are the most dominant habitat types with a narrow strip of broadleaved woodland following a small watercourse. Scattered trees can be found within the grassland area.

Qualifying features

Mosaic habitats

Rivers

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site may be used by a variety of invertebrates and birds, but is relatively disturbed in comparison to adjacent, more extensive habitats.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The grassland habitat appeared to be unmanaged at the time of survey and bramble was thought to be encroaching onto more valuable habitat and therefore in a state of decline. The site has been used for the tipping of hardcore material for some kind of construction, further impacting on the sites hydrology. Bramble scrub will require control to prevent encroachment and hedges could be layed to give them longevity. The purple moor grass pasture is in need of some cutting or controlled burning as the grass tussocks are becoming very high and dense, shading out other species, but continuing grazing at an appropriate density and maintaining moisture levels will be essential.

Recommendations for future management:

- Management of bramble scrub
- Lay hedgerows
- Manage purple moor grass through cutting or burning and then grazing
- Remove tipped material and try to prevent further tipping.

Additional information:

Local people believe this land is subject to a planning application for trout ponds.

Landowners: Mr Mike Harris / 'Nancy'

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, soft rush *Juncus effusus*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, water mint *Mentha aquatica*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., sneezewort *Achillea ptarmica*, great willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*, compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, common mouse ear *Cerastium fontanum*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, crested dog's tail *Cynosaurus cristatus*.

Woodland and scrub species

Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*,

Faunal species

Faunal species from data search (0m)

none



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

MG-20-N
St. John's
Colliery Field



Map generated by: AQ
 Date: 06/08/2013

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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-1-M

SINC name: Llyn-y-Felin

Grid reference: SS874772

Area (hectares): 44.93Ha

Survey date: 15th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

An extensive site dominated by woodland, large parts of which are coniferous and mixed plantation with some semi-natural areas, together with a small areas of semi-improved neutral grassland at the northern extent of the site and some dune scrub and dune grassland bordering the Merthyr Mawr Warren National Nature Reserve.

Woodland areas are dominated by conifers including Pine, together with predominantly Ash, Sycamore and Beech. Also Holly, English Elm, Spindle, Hazel, Sessile, Pedunculate and Holm Oak, Goat Willow, Alder and Birch, with ground flora species including Bluebells, Enchanter's Nightshade, Dog's Mercury and Redcurrant. Grassland species include Crested Dog's-tail, Self-heal, Meadowsweet, rushes and Mint with Sea Buckthorn, Bramble and Old Man's-Beard dominant within dune scrub areas.

Parts of the site around the car park for Merthyr Mawr Warren NNR are well used including by dog walkers and horse riders, including the area containing the ruins of Candlestone Castle. Large parts of the site, however, are relatively undisturbed including the area bordering the Ogmere River to the east of the site.

Qualifying features

Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Dune grassland and dune scrub.

Secondary features

Bluebells.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and potential roosting opportunities for bats.

Potential breeding populations of qualifying bird species recorded close to the site.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Invasive species including Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed are present on the river corridor at the south-east of the site with Himalayan Balsam also recorded at the north-western part of the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Gradually remove conifers from woodland canopy, allowing regenerations of native species in their place.
- Control of non-native Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed
- Consider increased control measures for dog-fouling, possibly with additional interpretation

- explaining the benefits of this for nature conservation
- Consider provision of artificial Otter holt in a quiet part of the river-bank.

Additional information:

Survey is based on spot checks rather than walking the full site boundaries.

Site is covered by historical, archaeological and landscape designations.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, European Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Downy Birch *Betula pubescens*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Grey Poplar *Populus canescens*, Goat Willow *Salix caprea*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Holm Oak *Quercus ilex*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*, Pine *Pinus* sp., Red Campion *Silene dioica*, Sea Buckthorn *Hippophae rhamnoides*, Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*, Spindle *Euonymus europaeus*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species: Agrimony *Agrimonia eupatoria*, Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Broad-leaved Willowherb *Epilobium montanum*, Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, Compact Rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Ground Ivy *Glechoma hederacea*, Hard Rush *Juncus inflexus*, Hart's-tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Himalayan Balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*, Common Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Horsetail *Equisetum* sp., Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica*, Large-flowered Evening Primrose *Oenothera erythrosepala*, Lesser Burdock *Arctium minus*, Male Fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, Old Man's-beard *Clematis vitalba*, Ragwort *Senecio jacobea*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Redcurrant *Ribes rubrum*, Silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Water Mint *Mentha aquatica*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*.

Fauna observations:

Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*, Emperor Dragonfly *Anax imperator*, Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*, European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, Raven *Corvus corax*, Robin *Erithacus rubecula*, Small Tortoiseshell *Aglais urticae*, Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*.

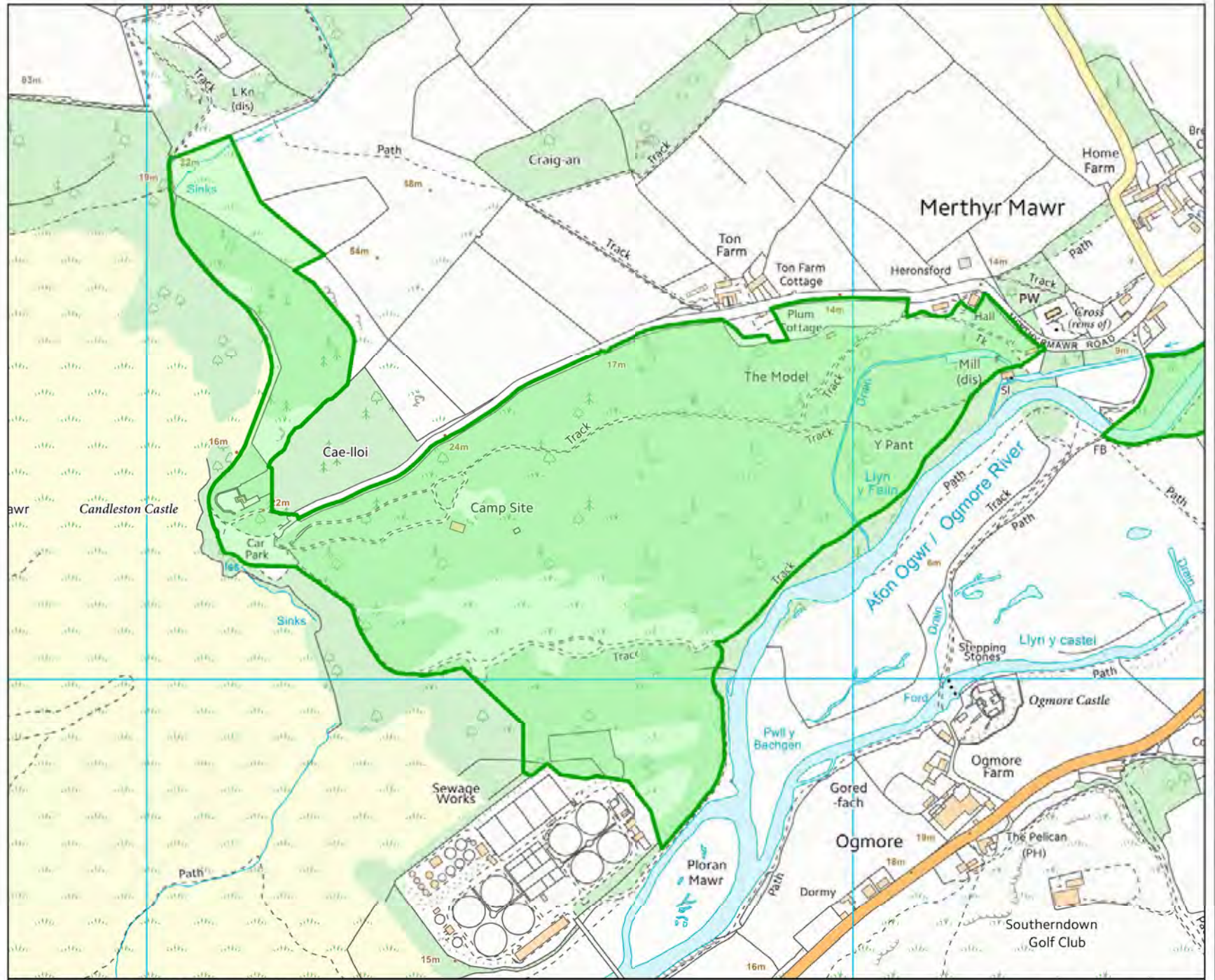
Additional species noted from desk study:

Within site: Brown Long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus*.

Bullhead *Cottus gobio*, Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar*, Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, Wood Lark *Lullula arborea*, Firecrest *Regulus ignicapillus*, Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*, European Eel *Anguilla anguilla*, Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*, Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor*, Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*, Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, Brown/ Sea Trout *Salmo trutta*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (100m outside of site boundary).



MM-1-M
Llyn-y-Felin



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-2-S

SINC name: Coed Cwintin

Grid reference: SS871781

Area (hectares): 17.75Ha

Survey date: 15th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Mixed semi-natural broadleaved woodland on an ancient woodland site, with Ash and Sycamore dominating the canopy, other species include Hawthorn, Elder, Hazel and Elms, with woodland ground flora species including Dog's Mercury, Enchanter's Nightshade, ferns and Herb Robert. The site is contained within a traditional stone boundary wall and lies close to Merthyr Mawr dunes. Himalayan Balsam is present towards the southern edge.

Qualifying features

Broad-leaved woodland site registered on the Ancient Woodland Inventories.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats.

Potential breeding populations of qualifying bird species recorded locally to the site.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Low level management, fenced/ walled off from adjacent agricultural grazing.

Himalayan Balsam establishing at the southern end of the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Control of invasive non-native Himalayan Balsam

Additional information:

Site within Merthyr Mawr historical designations.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Wych Elm *Ulmus glabra*.

Ground flora species:

Common Polypody *Polypodium vulgare*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Ground Ivy *Glechoma hederacea*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Himalayan Balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*, Common Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Maidenhair Spleenwort *Asplenium trichomanes*, Male Fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, Nipplewort *Lapsana communis*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*.

Fauna observations:

Badger *Meles meles*, Bank Vole *Myodes glareolus*, Grey Squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis*.

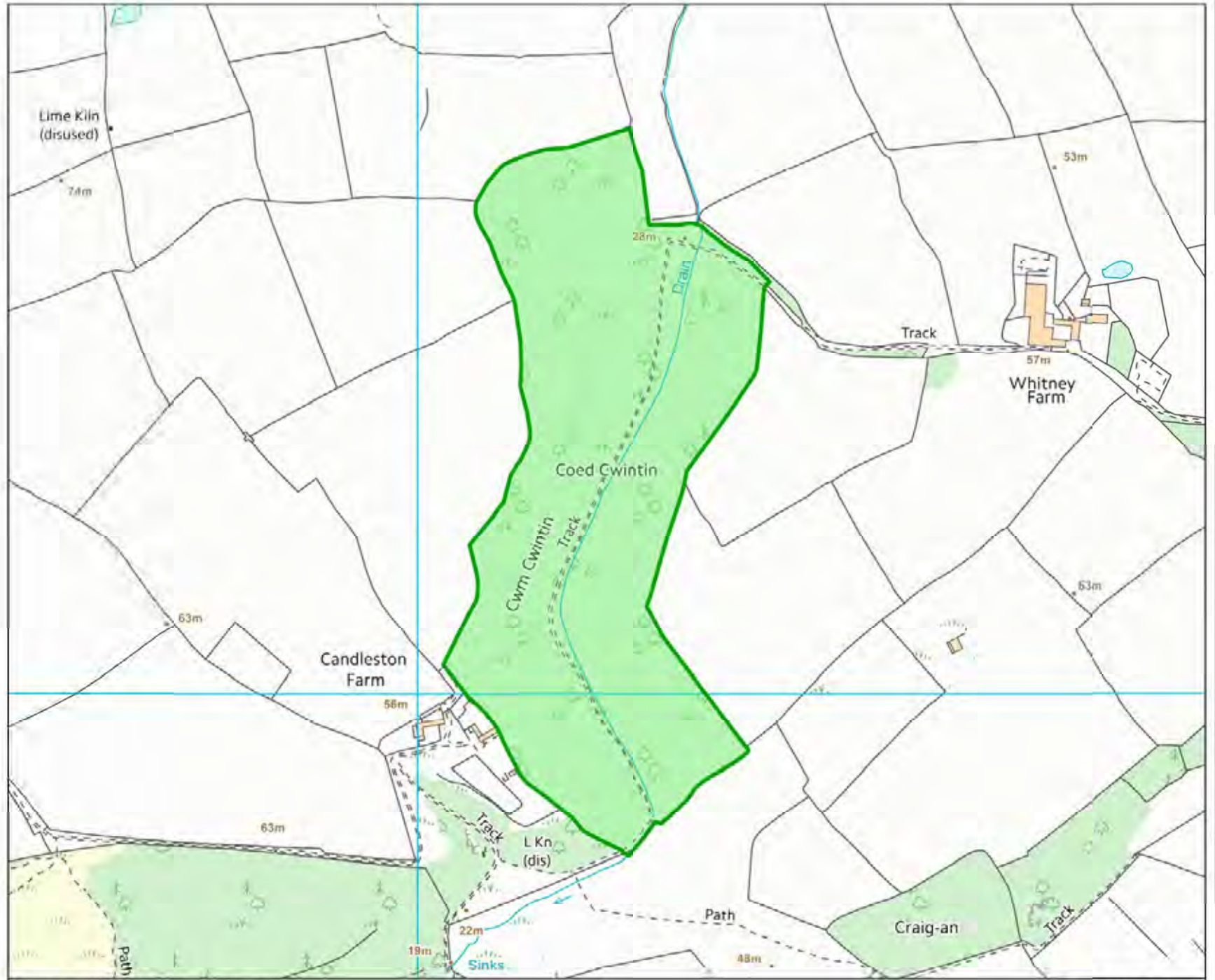
Additional species noted from desk study:

Great Crested Newt *Triturus cristatus* (250m from site boundary), Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* sp(p). (300m from site boundary), Brown Long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus* (500m from site boundary), Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (150m from site boundary).

Within site: *Conops ceriaeformis*, *Machimus atricapillus*, *Myopa tessellatipennis*.



MM-2-S
Coed Cwintin



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council**SINC number: MM-3-N****SINC name: Cwm-y-Befos****Grid reference: SS859780****Area (hectares): 12.57Ha****Survey date: 16th September 2011** **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders****Summary description**

A mosaic of habitats dominated by improved grassland with semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered scrub, and dense Bracken on the sloping sides either side of the central valley of the site, leading down to the edge of Merthyr Mawr Site of Special Scientific Interest, which the site borders, the lowest part of the SINC site falling within this designation. The semi-improved neutral grassland is concentrated on the eastern slopes of the site with Meadow Thistle, Tormentil, Cinquefoil and Lesser Stitchwort. Meadowsweet was also recorded towards the centre of the site where a rain fed occasionally wet ditch flows. Scrub along the eastern slopes of the site includes Gorse with Elder, Ash and Hawthorn. At the south end of the sit Bramble scrub with Hawthorn and some Elder borders the Merthyr Mawr SSSI, with Bracken to the north east of this within the site. The site is open as one grazing unit with horses present. Historical records for the site include a relatively large number of Waxcap fungi species.

Qualifying features

Semi-improved neutral grassland.

Grassland supporting more than 8 species of waxcap (13 from desk study).

Secondary features

Scattered scrub, Bracken.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Potential habitat for nesting birds including Tree Pipit.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Current grazing by horses could be managed to favour the semi-natural grassland habitat with management of Bracken also a consideration to favour scattered growth pattern allowing ground flora to flourish.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle, without sheep.
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.
- Consider local Bracken control at to maintain grassland habitat.

Additional information:

Sothern-most part of site covered by Merthyr Mawr SSSI designation and so not surveyed.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, Gorse *Ulex europaeus*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*.

Ground flora species Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, Creeping Cinquefoil *Potentilla repens*, Crested Dog's Tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, Curled Dock *Rumex crispus*, Dandelion *Taraxacum* sp., Dove's-foot Cranesbill *Geranium molle*, Ground Ivy *Glechoma hederacea*, European Honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, Lesser Stitchwort *Stellaria graminea*, Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, Meadow Thistle *Cirsium dissectum*, Nipplewort *Lapsana communis*, Red Campion *Silene dioica*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Red Fescue *Festuca rubra*, Ribwort Plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, Silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Lesser Stitchwort *Stellaria graminea*, Tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, White Clover *Trifolium repens*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*, Yorkshire Fog *Holcus lanatus*, Waxcaps *Hygrocybe* sp(p).

Fauna observations: Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*, European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, Swallow *Hirundo rustica*, Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*.

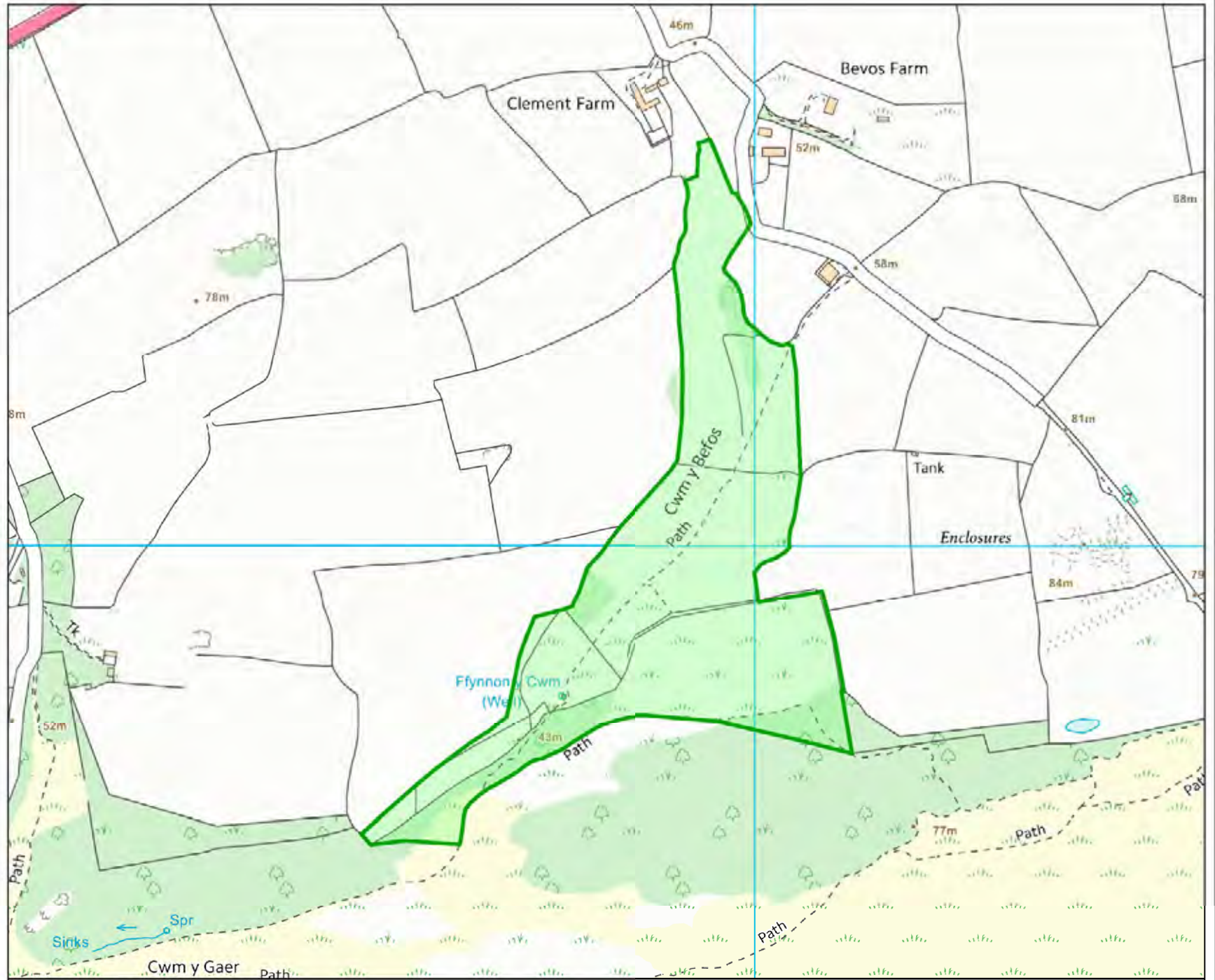
Additional species noted from desk study (relating to full SINC site):

Great Crested Newt *Triturus cristatus* (400m from site boundary).

Within site: Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*, Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, Glaucous Sedge *Carex flacca*, Heath Grass *Danthonia decumbens*, Butter Waxcap *Hygrocybe ceracea*, Golden Waxcap *Hygrocybe chlorophana*, Scarlet Waxcap *Hygrocybe coccinea*, Blackening Waxcap *Hygrocybe conica*, Yellow Foot Waxcap *Hygrocybe flavipes*, Earthy Waxcap *Hygrocybe fornicata*, Glutinous Waxcap *Hygrocybe glutinipes* var. *glutinipes*, Spangle Waxcap *Hygrocybe insipida*, Fibrous Waxcap *Hygrocybe intermedia*, Slimy Waxcap *Hygrocybe irrigata*, Parrot Waxcap *Hygrocybe psittacina* var. *psittacine*, Oily Waxcap *Hygrocybe quieta*, Snowy Waxcap *Hygrocybe virginea* var. *virginea*, Rough Hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus*, Trailing Tormentil *Potentilla anglica*.



MM-3-N
 Cwm-y-Befos



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-4-N

SINC name: Home Wood and Long Belt

Grid reference: SS854792

Area (hectares): 7.63Ha

Survey date: 16th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Mixed semi-natural broadleaved woodland on an ancient woodland site, comprising of a block to the main western part of the site plus a shelter belt of similar woodland extending along the hilltop to the east of the block. The canopy is dominated by Ash with some Sycamore, Oak, Beech and occasional Spindle, Hazel, Hawthorn, Cherry and Horse Chestnut. Ground flora include Bluebells, Hart's-tongue Fern and Dogs Mercury.

Qualifying features

Broad-leaved woodland site registered on the Ancient Woodland Inventories.

Secondary features

Bluebells.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats.

Potential breeding populations of qualifying bird species recorded close to the site.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Site is within estate and covered by historic landscape designation.

Some Winter Heliotrope, invasive non-native species, on roadside close to site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Continue exclusion of livestock from woodland
- Localised maintenance of boundaries

Additional information:

Historic well outside of site within field to east of main woodland block.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Beech *Fraxinus excelsior*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, Field Rose *Rosa arvensis*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*, Spindle *Euonymus europaeus*, Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Wayfaring Tree *Viburnum lantana*.

Ground flora species: Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Hart's-tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, Lord's-and-Ladies *Arum maculatum*, Common Polypody Fern *Polypodium vulgare*, Winter Heliotrope *Petasites fragrans*.

Fauna observations:

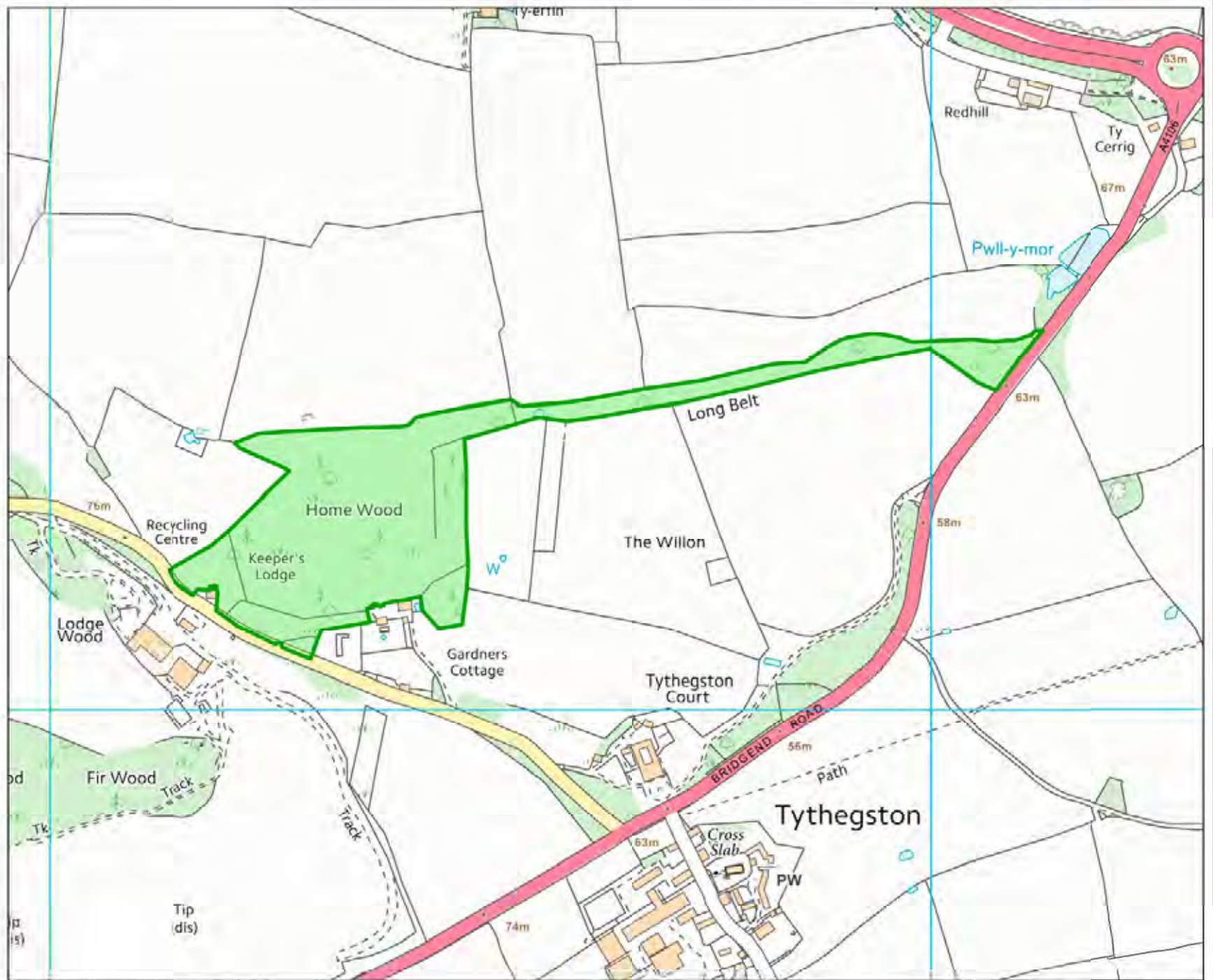
Badger *Meles meles*, Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*, Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*, Speckled Wood Butterfly *Pararge aegeria*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (within 200m of site boundary).



MM-4-N
Home Wood &
Long Belt Wood



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-5-S

SINC name: Coed Pwll-du

Grid reference: SS886776

Area (hectares): 7.71ha

Survey date: 28th September 2011

Surveyor: Abbey Sanders

Summary description

Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland with Ash and Sycamore dominating the canopy away from the River Ogmore, the banks of which are dominated by Alder woodland. Characteristic woodland ground flora are present including Bluebell, Dog's Mercury and Foxglove with invasive species forming significant stands along the river boundary in particular. The site forms part of the Merthyr Mawr estate.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of ancient woodland indicator species including Bluebell.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats and riparian habitat with shelter for Otter.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Within Special Landscape Area, Historic Landscape Area, Conservation Area and Archaeologically Sensitive Area designations (LDP).

Areas of extensive Japanese Knotweed along river and some more localised Himalayan Balsam and Bamboo. North side of river includes some recently thinned woodland, to the south the woodland is scrubby and open to grazing horses.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of invasive non-native Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam.
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Consider locally excluding livestock from woodland to encourage regeneration and provide areas of dense undergrowth to give cover for nesting birds and small mammals.
- Consider provision of artificial Otter holt in a quiet part of the river-bank.

Additional information:

Survey is based on spot checks rather than walking the entire site boundary. Within Cadw's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales and Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest. The site forms an important link between other local sites and the Merthyr Mawr dunes.

Horse grazed pasture to the south of the site and on the north banks of the Ewenny river form areas of floodplain grazing marsh with reens/ drainage channels and temporary pools used by migratory wildfowl including swans and geese; these areas could be considered for inclusion within the SINC or a separate designation.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*., Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Ivy *Hedera helix*.

Ground flora species:

Bamboo species, Bluebell *Hyacinthodes non-scripta*, Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Burdock *Arctium minus*, Broad-leaved Dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, Common Sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, Ground Elder *Aegopodium podagraria*, Common Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Pine species *Pinus* sp., Red Campion *Silene dioica*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*.

Fauna observations: Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*, Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*, Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*, Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*, Small Tortoiseshell *Aglais urticae*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus* sp(p)., Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar* Bullhead *Cottus gobio*, Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* (within 100m of site boundary), Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*, House Martin *Delichon urbicum* (within site).

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-6-S

SINC name: Chapel Hill

Grid reference: SS889781

Area (hectares): 7.32ha

Survey date: 28th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Semi-natural woodland plantation with canopy species dominated by Beech, including standing deadwood and large specimens, as well as Ash with occasional Chestnut, Pine trees, Holly and Hazel with characteristic woodland ground flora including Ivy, Dog's Mercury and Herb Robert. Boundary stone walls are present in places with some apparently more recent woodland areas around the chapel hill itself. The site forms part of the parkland setting of grounds of Merthyr Mawr house which lies to the immediate south of the site.

Qualifying features

Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland plantation including Beech with occasional veteran trees set in parkland.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and potential roosting opportunities for bats and riparian habitat for Otter.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Within Special Landscape Area, Historic Landscape Area and Archaeologically Sensitive Area designations (LDP).

Areas of Himalayan Balsam invading woodland along north-east site boundary with New Inn Road.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, targeting conifer species where relevant, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Control of invasive species
- Local maintenance of boundaries

Additional information:

Within Cadw's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales and Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest.

Chapel Hill contains a 15th Century chapel (Scheduled Ancient Monument) on the remains of a hill fort, which has no roof and may provide bat roosting opportunities. Whilst the perimeter areas of the site were surveyed, this central part of the site was not surveyed due to permission being denied prior to written request from the local authority. Further survey of this central area would therefore be beneficial.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Horse Chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Pine species *Pinus* sp., Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*.

Ground flora species:

Bluebell *Hyacinthodes non-scripta*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Hart's-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Himalayan Balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*, Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar* (within/ adjacent to site), Bullhead *Cottus gobio*, European Otter *Lutra lutra*, Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus* sp(p)., Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* (100m from site boundary), Brown Long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus* (400m from site boundary).

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, Redwing *Turdus iliacus* (100m from site boundary), Red Kite *Milvus milvus* (150m from site boundary), Barn Owl *Tyto alba* (250m).



MM-6-S
Chapel Hill



Map generated by: AQ
 Date: 02/08/2013

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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council**SINC number: MM-7-N****SINC name: Merthyr Mawr Common****Grid reference: SS852782****Area (hectares): 6.85Ha****Survey date: 16th September 2011** **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders****Summary description**

Main common area has apparently been ploughed and reseeded in the recent past, with improved grazing pasture now present, several small areas of semi-natural woodland are present with the site providing greater biodiversity interest; a fenced area to the south-east of the site, a small area within the north part of the field which is open to the field and a strip along the opposite side of the lane at the west of the site which borders the adjacent campsite. The canopy of each woodland area is dominated by Ash with Hawthorn. The western strip also has Blackthorn and a diverse ground flora including Bluebells, Red Currant, Enchanter's Nightshade, Ivy and Hart's-tongue Fern. The southern woodland contains English Elm, Sycamore, Hazel and Holly with ground flora including Primrose, The woodland within the north-east part of the field contains Blackthorn, Bramble Sycamore and Black Bryony and provides valuable local shelter to birds and invertebrates with some tree holes within the Ash. The hedgerows around the field contain Honeysuckle with Bracken and extensive Himalayan Balsam along the north-east site boundary.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species

Secondary features

Bluebells

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and potential roosting opportunities for bats.

Potential breeding populations of qualifying fauna species recorded locally

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Non-native Himalayan Balsam is prevalent along the north site boundary. Main part of site re-seeded presumably for improved grazing with sheep present. Woodland at south-east of site fenced off, woodland strip along west of lane open to road with flytipping.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control invasive species
- Remove flytipping and try to prevent further problem
- No further re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.

Additional information:

Common Land Survey Site 90

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Buddleia *Buddleia davidii*, Elder *Sambucus nigra* English Elm *Ulmus procera* Field Rose *Rosa arvensis*, Ground Elder *Aegopodium podagraria*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*,
Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Red Currant *Ribes rubrum*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*,

Ground flora species:

Bluebells *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Cleavers *Galium aparine*, Columbine *Aquilegia vulgaris*, Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, Cutleaf Cranesbill *Geranium dissectum*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Greater Burdock *Arctium lappa* Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, Stinging Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Red Campion *Silene dioica*, Rosebay Willowherb *Chamaenerion angustifolium*, Hart-s-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum* Himalayan Balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*, Male Fern *Dryopteris filix-mas* Primrose *Primula vulgaris*, Stinging Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Wood Avens *Geum arbanum*

Fauna observations:

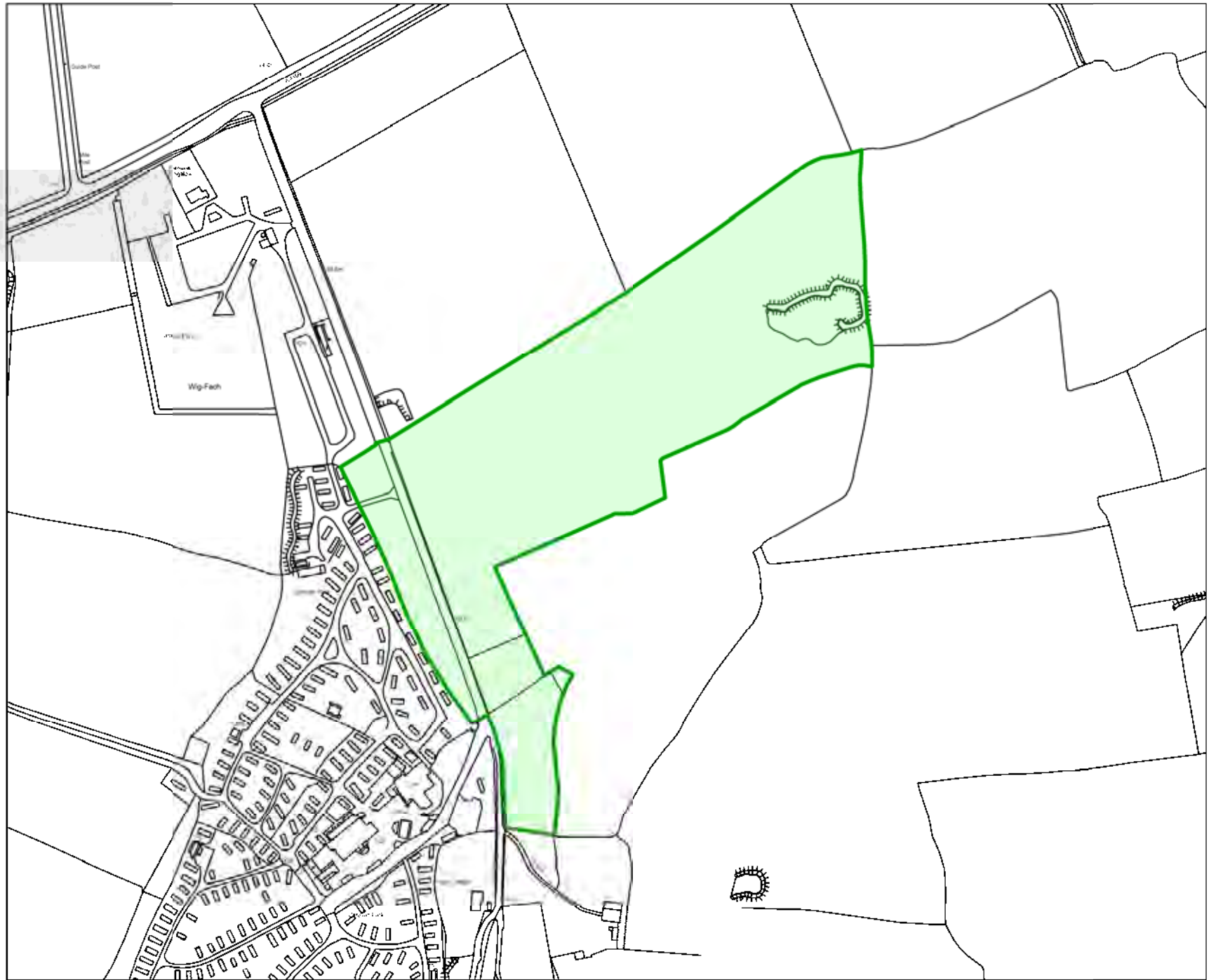
Badger *Meles meles*, Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*, Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*, Mole *Talpa europaeus*, Raven *Corvus corax*, Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*, Robin *Erithacus rubecula*, Speckled Wood *Pararge aegaria*, Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus* Buddleia *Buddleia davidii*

Additional species noted from desk study:

Within site: Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus sp.*, Slow-worm *Anguiss fragilis*, Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*, Mole Cricket *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa*, Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*, Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*, Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*, Adder *Vipera berus*, Skylark *Alauda arvensis*, Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*, Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, Bunting *Emberiza scheoniculus*, Dingy Skipper *Eynnis tages*, Fragrant Orchid *Gymnadhia conopsea*, Common Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*, Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*, Powdered Quaker *Orthosia gracilis*, House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Hedge Accentor *Prunella modularis*, Grizzled Skipper *Pyrgus malvae*, Common Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, Cinnebar *Tyria jacobaeae*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*, Common Starling *Stumus vulgaris*



MM-7-N
Merthyr Mawr
Common



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-8-S

SINC name: Coed y Tyle

Grid reference: SS888785

Area (hectares): 3.96ha

Survey date: 28th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Mixed woodland with Ash dominating, particularly in the section south-west of the road dividing the woodland, which has Beech and banks of Bluebells and wet areas with Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage. The north-eastern section has a more mixed canopy with Ash, Oak, Sycamore and Hazel as well as a small conifer plantation and species diverse ground flora including Redcurrant and Solomon's Seal.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of ancient woodland indicator species and some wet woodland areas.

Secondary features

Badger activity, sett not identified but likely to be within or close to the woodland.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats.

Potential habitat for Dormice.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Low level management with some standing and fallen deadwood either side of the road. The central north-east section of woodland lies on rough previously worked (quarried?) ground. The southern edge of this part of the woodland is open to the road and has some tipped litter and garden waste.

Recommendations for future management:

- Litter-picking and removal of tipped material
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora. Consider coppicing Hazel.
- Consider removal of conifers to allow regeneration of native woodland

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Dog Rose *Rosa canina*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Wayfaring Tree *Viburnum lantana*.

Ground flora species: Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Bluebell *Hyacinthodes non-scripta*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Hart's-tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Lords-and-Ladies *Arum maculatum*, Male Fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, Primrose *Primula vulgaris*, Redcurrant *Ribes rubrum*, Solomon's Seal *Polygonatum multiflorum*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*.

Fauna observations: Badger *Meles meles*, Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*, European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*.

Additional species noted from desk study: European Otter *Lutra lutra* (200m from boundary), Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* (100m from boundary), Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar* (200m from boundary), Bullhead *Cottus gobio* (250m from boundary). Hedge Accentor *Prunella modularis*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (100m from boundary).

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-9-N

SINC name: Island Farm POW Camp

Grid reference: SS898784

Area (hectares): 14.08ha

Survey date: 29th September 2011

Surveyor: Abbey Sanders

Summary description

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland including Ash, Goat Willow, Sycamore, Elder and Pedunculate Oak, with some non-native plants including conifers and Buddleia, some areas of established Hazel scrub woodland with associated ground flora (north-east corner) close to the retained prison camp hut which is a known bat roost. Areas of open rank semi-improved species-poor grassland, scrub with dense Bramble and ruderal herbs are present in mosaic over an extensive area.

Qualifying features

Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland, resident and breeding European Protected Species (Hazel Dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius* and Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*).

Secondary features

Site supports a wide range of breeding and migratory birds (from desk study records).

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide foraging opportunities in grassland areas for birds of prey including Barn Owl.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Within Archaeologically Sensitive Area and Employment designation (UDP). Site appears well used for informal recreation including cycling, horse riding and dog walking. The site is in BCBC ownership with minimal management and has been surveyed several times in recent years in connection with proposals to develop the surrounding land with the site forming part of this unit. A scheme has been agreed in principle to develop the surrounding land, retaining SINC including the archaeological and bat interest of the hut on site, which is fenced off from public access although with holes broken through, and areas containing and of value to Dormice. An extension area into an agricultural field to the south-west is proposed which would retain scrub and hedgerow of value to Dormice.

Dormouse nest boxes and tubes from former surveys are present within the existing SINC in a state of disrepair, replacing the boxes is likely to enhance breeding opportunities on site for this species. Bird boxes could also provide site enhancement.

Recommendations for future management:

- Replacement of Dormouse nest boxes
- Consider installing a range of bird boxes in woodland areas
- Repair of fencing around building used as bat roost
- Local woodland management by thinning/ re-coppicing as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora

- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats
- Manage grassland by mowing, as grazing is unlikely to be practical at this site, with two cuts a year, the second in late summer after plants have flowered and dropped seed, with arisings removed from the site.

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Bird Cherry *Prunus avium*, Dog Rose *Rosa canina*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, Goat Willow *Salix caprea*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Horse Chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Laurel species, Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*, Pine species *Pinus* sp., Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, Silver Birch *Betula pendula*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species:

Common Agrimony *Agrimonia eupatoria*, Barren Strawberry *Potentilla sterilis*, Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, Black Medick *Medicago lupulina*, Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Broad-leaved Dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, Broad-leaved Willowherb *Epilobium montanum*, Buddleia *Buddleia davidii*, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, Common Cat's-ear *Hypochaeris radicata*, Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, Creeping Thistle *Cirsium arvense*, Daisy *Bellis perennis*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Hart's-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Hemp Agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Horsetail *Equisetum* sp., Imperforate St. John's-wort *Hypericum maculatum*, Common Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Lady's Mantle *Alchemilla vulgaris*, Meadow Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, Mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*, Prickly Sow-thistle *Sonchus asper*, Primrose *Primula vulgaris*, Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, Red Campion *Silene dioica*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Rosebay Willowherb *Epilobium angustifolium*, Selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*, Silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, Smooth Hawk's-beard *Crepis capillaris*, Snowberry species *Symphoricarpos* sp., Soft Rush *Juncus effusus*, Teasel *Dipsacus fullonum*, Tufted Vetch *Vicia cracca*, Violet species *Viola* sp. Water Mint *Mentha aquatica*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*.

Fauna observations: Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*, Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Jay *Garrulus glandarius*, Magpie *Pica pica*, Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*, European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, Robin *Erithacus rubecula* Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

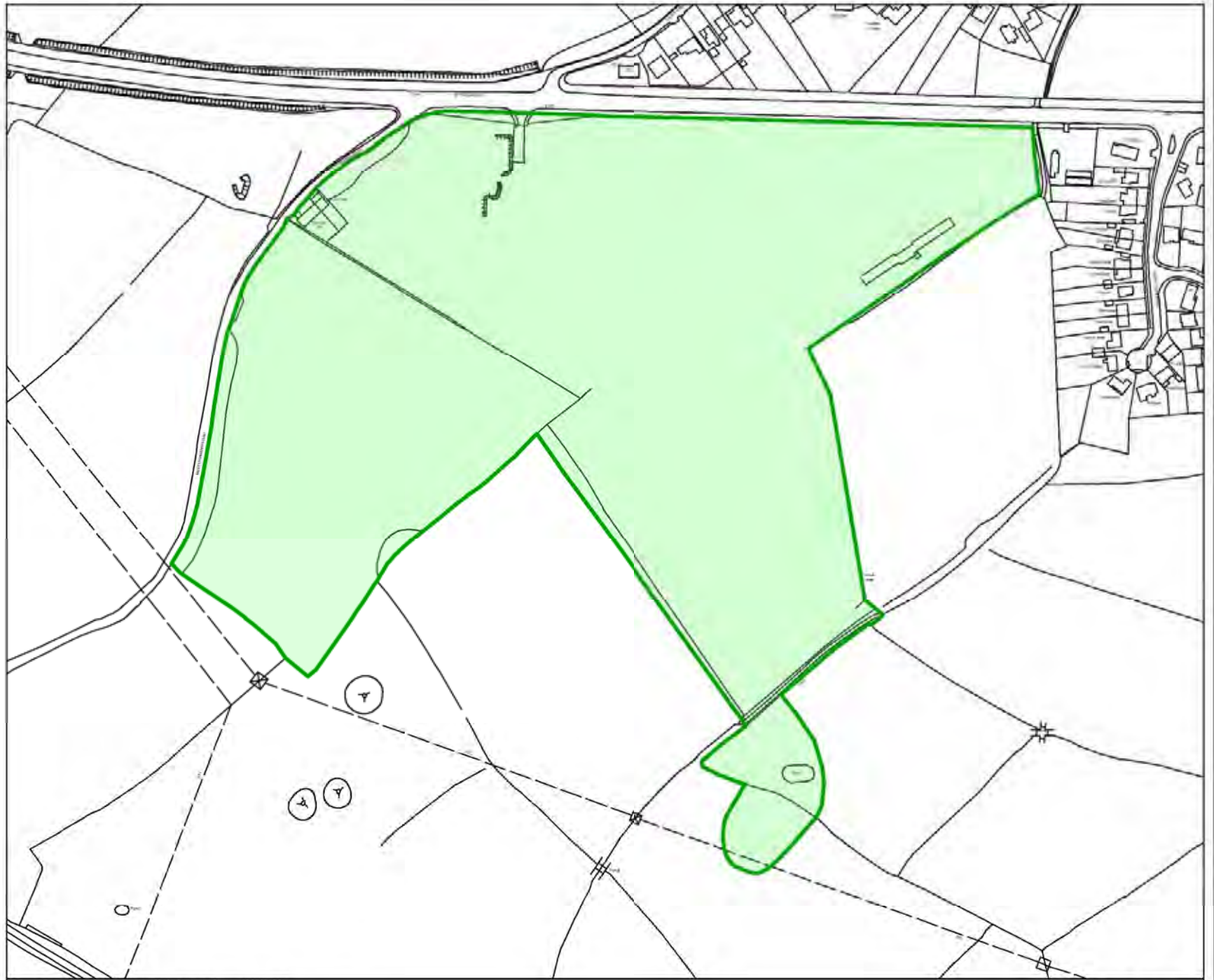
Hazel Dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius*, Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* (within site), Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar*, Bullhead *Cottus gobio*, European Otter *Lutra lutra*, Brown Long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus* (100m from site boundary), Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* sp. (300m from site boundary), Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris* (within site), Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, (within 100m), Redwing *Turdus iliacus*, Barn Owl *Tyto alba* (within 150m).

Within site; Various records including West European Hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*, Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*, Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*, Dingy Skipper *Erynnis tages*, Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*, Golden-ringed Dragonfly *Cordulegaster boltonii*.



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

MM-9-N
Island Farm
POW Camp



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 15/08/2013

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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-10-S

SINC name: Verville

Grid reference: SS889774

Area (hectares): 3.33ha

Survey date: 28th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Semi-natural woodland along the north boundary of the site with the river bank contains Beech and Ash, with Hawthorn hedges to the east and south field boundaries, the central part of the site is a ploughed field with an ancient earthwork at the western site boundary, this appears as an unploughed area between this and the adjacent field with a large Ash tree at the southern end.

Qualifying features

Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland including Beech within the field margin along the river Ogmores banks at the north of the site, although this forms only a small part of the site with the main part appearing not to qualify as a SINC from current information.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats and riparian habitat offering shelter to Otter.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Within Special Landscape Area, Historic Landscape Area, Archaeologically Sensitive Area and Limestone Resource Safeguarding Zone designations (LDP).

Areas of Himalayan Balsam.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of invasive non-native species (Himalayan Balsam)
- Local woodland management as needed, by selective thinning of some trees to open up the canopy providing more diverse height and species within the tree, shrub and ground flora layers
- Consider provision of artificial Otter holt in a sheltered area of the river bank

Additional information:

Within Cadw's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales and Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest (Merthyr Mawr designation).

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Oak species *Quercus* sp..

Ground flora species:

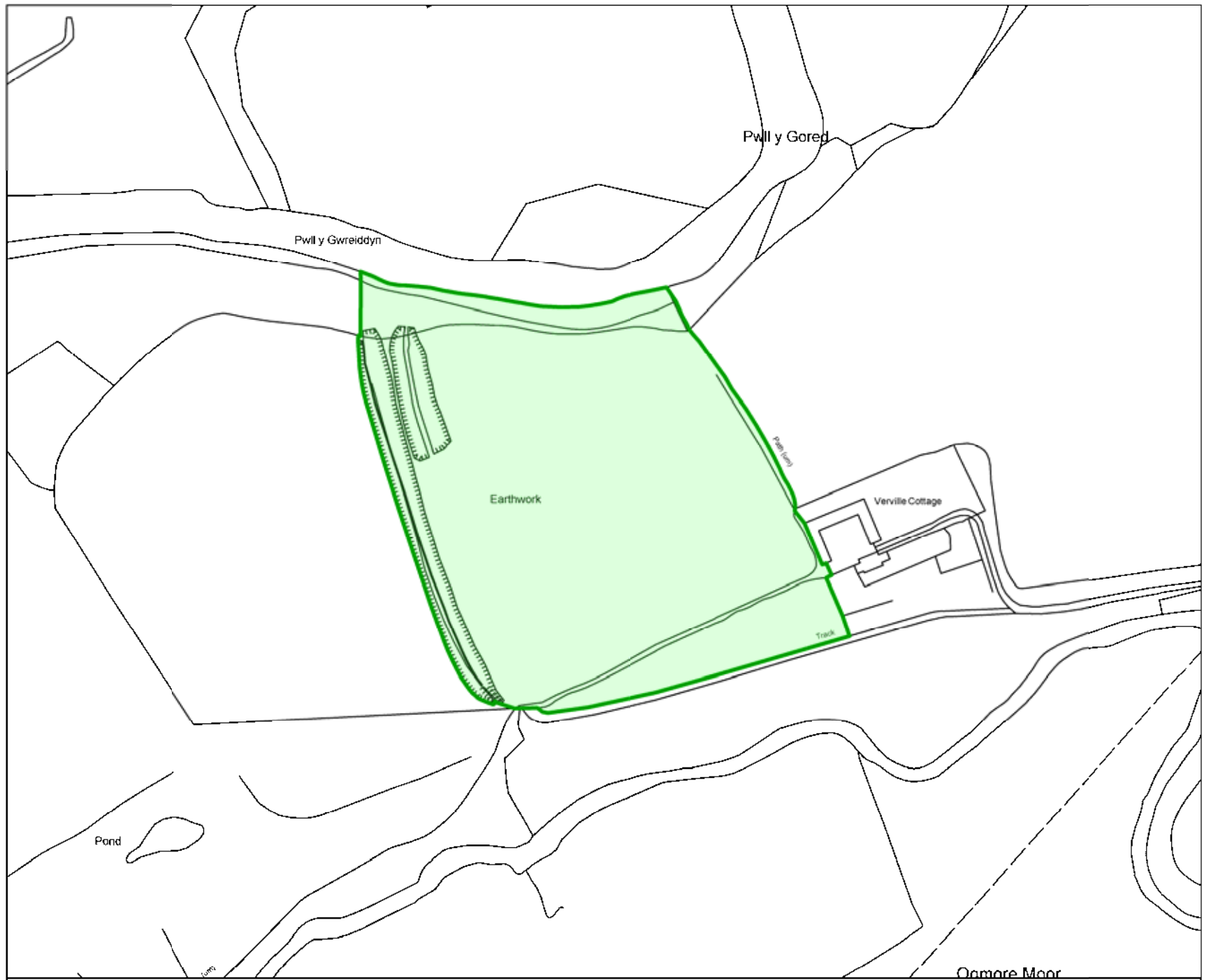
Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Broad-leaved Dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Ground Ivy *Glechoma hederacea*, Hart's-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Himalayan Balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*, Lords-and-Ladies *Arum maculatum*, Nipplewort *Lapsana communis*, Red Campion *Silene dioica*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Wood Spurge *Euphorbia amygdaloides*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus* sp., Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* (100m from site boundary), Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar*, Bullhead *Cottus gobio* (within 350m of site boundary), Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* (100m from site boundary), Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*, House Martin *Delichon urbicum* (within site).



MM-10-S
Verville



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 02/08/2013

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-11-N

SINC name: Ar-Graig Field

Grid reference: SS867796

Area (hectares): 2.19Ha

Survey date: 16th September 2011

Surveyor: Abbey Sanders

Summary description

Attractive and locally unusual species rich semi-improved neutral/ wet grassland with herbs dominating over grasses in significant parts of the site. The species identified during this survey give close to the threshold criteria for both neutral grassland and marshy grassland SINC status, with large patches of Devil's-bit Scabious, Fleabane, Hemp Agrimony, Meadowsweet, Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil and Betony recorded as well as Tall Fescue, Lesser Stitchwort, Meadow Thistle, Dewberry and Tufted Vetch among others. Open water with Typha and rushes as well as Grey Willow is present with a large pond at the south-west part of the site, which has an undisturbed and sheltered character provided by the overgrown hedgerows which include Ash, Hawthorn, Blackthorn and English Elm. The sward was high at the time of survey so that herbs and grasses had flowered over recent months.

Qualifying features

Semi-improved neutral grassland/ semi-improved marshy grassland.

Open water.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

With appropriate management the site could be suitable for Marsh Fritillary butterfly *Euphydryas aurinia*.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Low level management, aerial photography indicates hay cut.

Consideration could be given to introducing appropriate low level grazing or other management to encourage Marsh Fritillary butterfly although this would be likely to involve altering the current valuable structure and diversity of the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats
- Continue to manage grassland with a late summer cut after plants have flowered and dropped seed, with arisings removed from the site (as hay).
- Local cutting back of boundary trees to maintain hedgerow structure and minimise encroachment onto grassland habitats
- Monitor encroachment of Willow scrub into pond and consider cutting back to retain open areas of water.

Additional information:

Further survey in early summer would be likely to identify further species.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Dewberry *Rubus caesius*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Grey Willow *Salix cinerea*.

Ground flora species:

Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, Betony *Stachys officinalis*, Devil's-bit Scabious *Succisa pratensis*, Fleabane *Pulicaria dysenterica*, Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, Great Reedmace *Typha latifolia*, Great Willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*, Hard Rush *Juncus inflexus*, Hemp Agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, Imperforate St. John's-wort *Hypericum maculatum*, Meadow Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, Lesser Stitchwort *Stellaria graminea*, Marsh Willowherb *Epilobium palustre*, Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, Meadow Fescue *Festuca pratensis*, Meadow Thistle *Cirsium dissectum*, Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, Red Bartsia *Odontites vernus*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*, Silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, Tall Fescue *Festuca arundinacea*, Tufted Vetch *Vicia cracca*.

Fauna observations: House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Barn Owl *Tyto alba* (150m outside site boundary), Brown Hare *Lepus europaeus* (200m outside site boundary).

Within site; Orange-tip *Anthocharis cardamines*.



MM-11-N
Ar-Graig Field



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-11-S

SINC name: Coed y Nawern

Grid reference: SS884781

Area (hectares): 2.45ha

Survey date: 28th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland plantation forming a shelter belt for most of its length, including some very large veteran trees and on the edge of parkland (associated with Merthyr Mawr house). Canopy dominated by Beech with Sycamore, Ash and English Elm with characteristic woodland ground flora including Bluebells.

A row of large mature Beech trees along the lane opposite the south-western corner of the woodland is also proposed for inclusion.

Qualifying features

Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland plantation including Beech and Bluebell with occasional veteran trees.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and potential roosting opportunities for bats.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Low level management with stock proof boundaries maintained, including a stone wall along the northern boundary with a right of way.

Within Special Landscape Area, Historic Landscape Area and Archaeologically Sensitive Area designations (LDP).

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by selective thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- Continue maintenance of boundary walls and fences to exclude livestock
- Consider installing and maintaining bat and bird boxes to provide additional roosting/ nesting sites

Additional information:

Within Cadw's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales and Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest.

A row of large mature Beech trees on the opposite side of the lane to the north of the south-western part of the woodland should be considered for inclusion within the SINC.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Horse Chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Pine species *Pinus* sp., Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*.

Ground flora species:

Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, Broad-leaved Dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Hard Fern *Blechnum spicant*, Hairy Brome *Bromus ramosus*, Hart's-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Male Fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, Nipplewort *Lapsana communis*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Violet species *Viola* sp..

Fauna observations: Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*, Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Fox *Vulpes vulpes*, Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*.

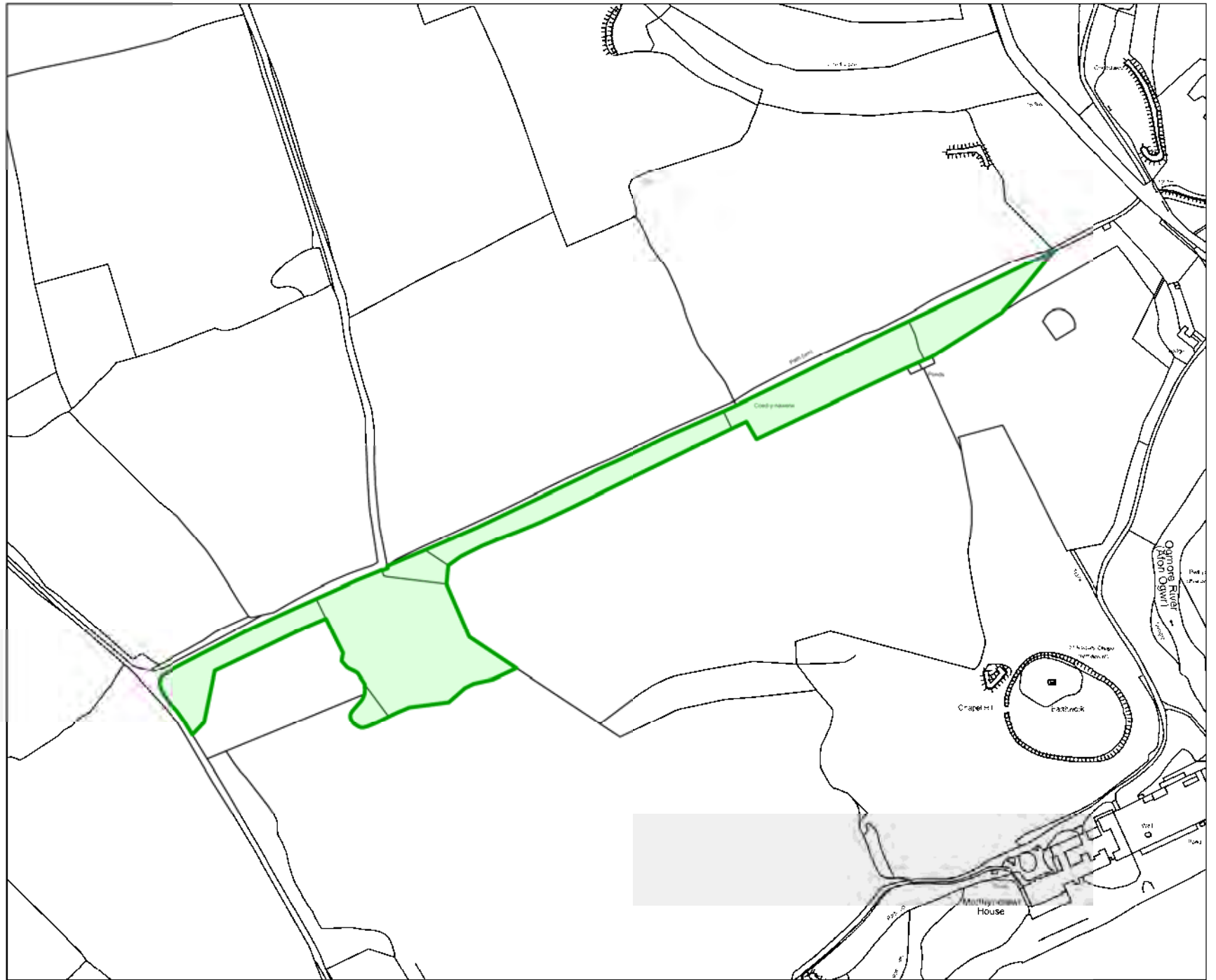
Additional species noted from desk study:

Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* (100m from site boundary), European Otter *Lutra lutra*, Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar* (200m from site boundary), Bullhead *Cottus gobio*, (within 250m of site boundary), Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus* sp. (within 450m of site boundary) Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, Redwing *Turdus iliacus* (100m from site boundary), Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*, Red Kite *Milvus milvus* (150m from site boundary).



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

MM-11-S
Coed-y-Nawern



Map generated by: AQ
 Date: 02/08/2013

1: Crown Copyright and database rights (2013) Ordnance Survey (100034408)
 2: Hewlett-Packard Development Company, (2013) and Trivadis by Artek Ordnance (100023405)
 3: Cities Revealed Aerial Photography copyright: The GeoInformation Group (2013)

Scale 1:4,000 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-13-S

SINC name: Craig-an-Wood

Grid reference: SS876777

Area (hectares): 1.82Ha

Survey date: 15th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Mixed semi-natural broadleaved woodland with Sycamore dominating the canopy, other species include Ash, Hazel, Elm, Cherry, Ivy and Pedunculate Oak with woodland ground flora species including Bluebells, Dog's Mercury, Enchanter's Nightshade and Herb Robert. The site is contained within a traditional stone boundary wall with an additional woodland area adjoining the site to the east.

Qualifying features

Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Secondary features

Bluebells.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats.

Potential breeding populations of qualifying bird species recorded locally to the site.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Low level management, fenced/ walled off with cattle having recently been into woodland. Rough ground indicates previous worked areas.

Recommendations for future management:

- Low level woodland management by selective thinning of some trees (consider removal of Sycamore) to open up the canopy providing more diverse height and species within the tree, shrub and ground flora layers
- Continued maintenance of site boundaries including traditional stone walls to exclude livestock from the woodland (to maintain ground flora and shrub layers of woodland plants)
- Consider installing and maintaining bat boxes and a range of bird boxes on trees to provide additional roosting and nesting sites.

Additional information:

Site within Merthyr Mawr historical designations.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Bird Cherry *Prunus avium*, Wych Elm *Ulmus glabra*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Old Man's Beard *Clematis vitalba*, Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species:

Bluebells *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, Hart's-tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Male Fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*.

Fauna observations:

European Mole *Talpa europaea*, Badger *Meles meles*, Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Raven *Corvus corax*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Lesser Horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* (100m from site boundary), Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* sp. (250m from site boundary), Brown Long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus* (450m from site boundary), Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor*, Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*, (200m from site boundary), Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (100m from site boundary).

Within site: *Conops ceriaeformis*, *Machimus atricapillus*, *Myopa tessellatipennis*.



MM-13-S
Craig-an Wood



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council**SINC number: MM-14-S****SINC name: Kiln Field****Grid reference: SS872788****Area (hectares): 0.91Ha****Survey date: 15th September 2011** **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders****Summary description**

Semi-improved neutral species-rich grassland with wet areas within the central field (area B) of three making up the site, surrounded by mixed hedgerows, and with an additional area of semi-improved grassland to the south in a separate field (area A), on raised ground with a large number of ant hills. The third adjacent part of the site (area C) is the southern corner of a larger grazing unit, being much less diverse and could be considered for exclusion from the SINC.

Area A contains Cocksfoot, Crested Dog's-tail and Red Fescue grasses with Lesser Stitchwort, Meadow Thistle, Lesser Bird's-foot Trefoil and Meadowsweet. Anthills are prevalent throughout this part of the site with fungi including waxcap(s) also present.

Area B contains Foxtail Crested Dog's-tail, Meadow Fescue and Red Fescue grasses with Selfheal, Bush Vetch, Black Knapweed, Black Medic, Lesser Stitchwort and Devil's-bit Scabious, with trees around the site including Ash with tree holes, Alder, Hazel, Elm, Hawthorn and Blackthorn.

Area C is less diverse and more improved grassland which could potentially be excluded from the SINC designation, with Cocksfoot Grass, Meadowsweet, Meadow Buttercup and Lady's Mantle.

Qualifying features

Semi-improved neutral grassland.

Secondary features**Potential value/ unconfirmed features****Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)**

Area A to the south is part of a larger sheep grazed field, Area B, the central field, was un-grazed with a medium height sward at the time of survey. Area C is open to the adjacent field to the north and grazed by cattle.

Recommendations for future management:

- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats
- Continue to manage grassland in the central Area B by mowing, with a late summer cut after plants have flowered and dropped seed, with arisings removed from the site (as hay).
- Continue with light grazing of Area A to the south (and C to the north), preferably by cattle

or ponies rather than sheep

Additional information:

Further survey including of ant and fungi species in particular would be of benefit.

Area C could be considered for removal from the SINC designation area as it is less diverse than areas A and B.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Crab Apple *Malus sylvestris*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Field Rose *Rosa arvensis*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*.

Ground flora species:

Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, Black Medic *Medicago lupulina*, Betony *Stachys officinalis*, Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, Common Sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, Crested Dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, Devil's-bit Scabious *Succisa pratensis*, Lady's Mantle *Alchemilla* sp., Lesser Stitchwort *Stellaria graminea*, Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, Meadow Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, Meadow Fescue *Festuca pratensis*, Meadow Foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis*, Meadow Thistle *Cirsium dissectum*, Hoary Ragwort *Senecio erucifolius*, Red Bartsia *Odontites verna*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Red Fescue *Festuca rubra*, Selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*, Tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, Tufted Vetch *Vicia cracca*, White Clover *Trifolium repens*.

Fauna observations: Ant hills, Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*, Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeus*, Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria*.

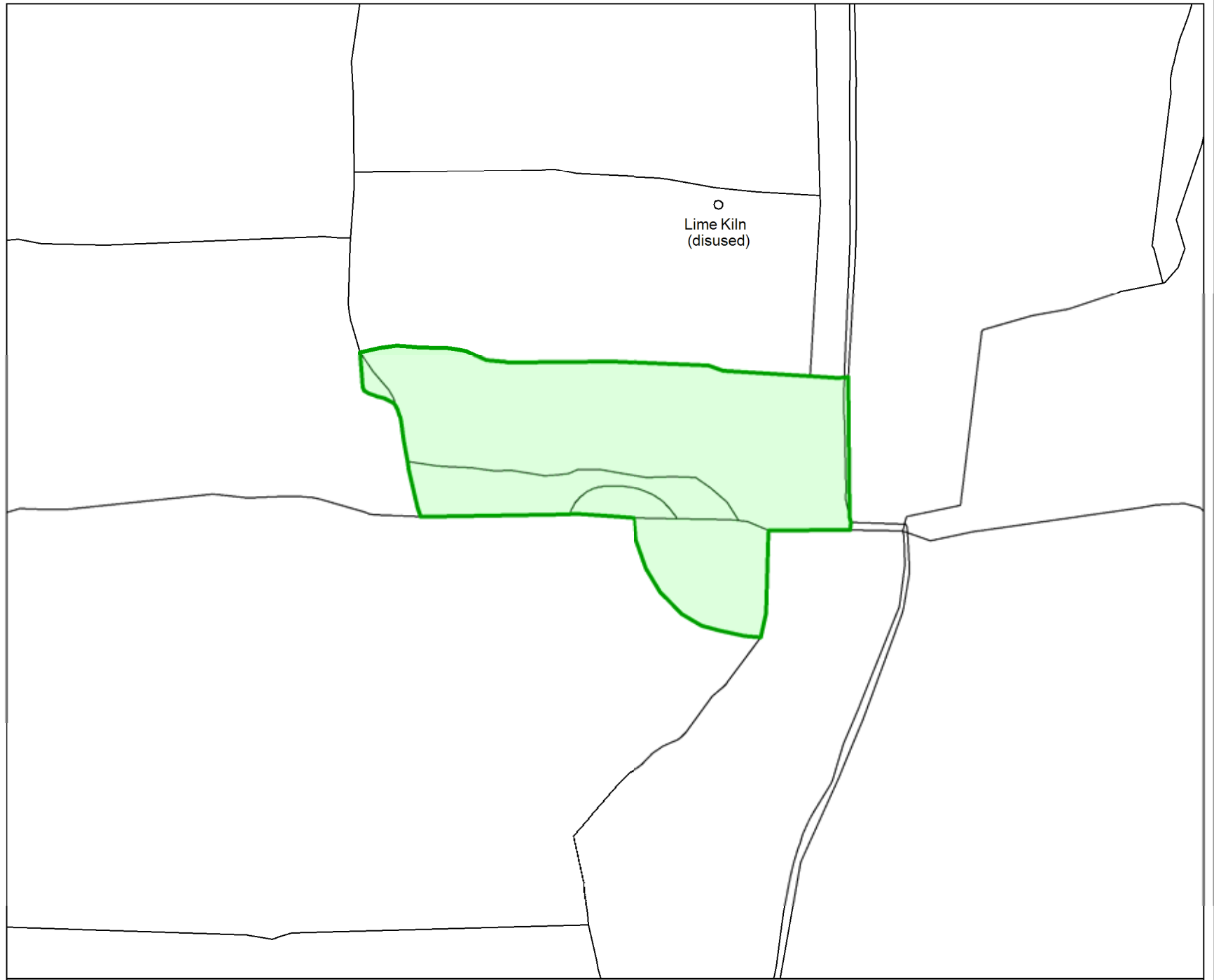
Additional species noted from desk study:

Within site; Barren Strawberry *Potentilla sterilis*, Common Bugle *Ajuga reptans*, Pignut *Conopodium majus*, Downy Oat-grass *Helictotrichon pubescens*, Meadow Vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis*, Cowslip *Primula veris*, Bulbous Buttercup *Ranunculus bulbosus*, Salad Burnet *Sanguisorba minor*, Yellow Oat-grass *Trisetum flavescens*.



**BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW**

MM-14-S
Kiln Field



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 06/08/2013

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: MM-15-N

SINC name: Pwll-y-Mor

Grid reference: SS861795

Area (hectares): 0.45Ha

Survey date: 16th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

A small area of semi-natural woodland dominated by wet woodland and a pond, with the pond being overshadowed by the trees particularly Willow with a small central area of shallow open water at the time of survey, the pond area is most evident at the northern part of the site with the southern part being dominated by woodland plants including Ash and Sycamore with dense scrubby areas on the perimeter of the site. Shrub species include Blackthorn, Field and Dog Rose, Bramble and Dewberry.

Qualifying features

Wet woodland/ semi-natural pond.

Secondary features

Semi-natural woodland with indicator species.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats.

Potential breeding populations of qualifying bird species recorded close to the site.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Fenced off from livestock, low level management with canopy trees shading out the pond area, immediately adjacent to the road with potential for runoff into the pond.

Recommendations for future management:

- Remove Willow growth from the pond itself and areas immediately adjacent to open the canopy above the pond
- Consider mechanical removal of silt from within the pond to restore open water area, this should be carried out between October and February inclusive where possible to minimise disturbance to wildlife
- Diversify woodland structure by selective thinning of some trees to open up the canopy providing more diverse height and species within the tree, shrub and ground flora layers

Additional information:

Adjoins MM-4-N Home Wood and Long Belt SINC at the south end of this site.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, European Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Dewberry *Rubus caesius*, Dog Rose *Rosa canina*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Field Rose *Rosa arvensis*, Goat Willow *Salix caprea*, Horse Chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Wayfaring Tree *Viburnum lantana*.

Ground flora species:

Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Common Polypody Fern *Polypodium vulgare*, Greater Burdock *Arctium lappa*, Ground Elder *Aegopodium podagraria*, Hart's-tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*.

Fauna observations:

Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*, Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*, Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Water Germander *Teucrium scordium*, Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*, Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (within 100m of site boundary).



MM-15-N
Pwll-y-Mor



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-2-N

SINC name: Pennsylvania Wood

Grid reference: SS 886 832

Area (hectares): 34.79

Survey date: 25/09/2011

Surveyor: Rebecca East

Summary description

Reasonably large area of mixed plantation woodland with pockets of broadleaved woodland and scrub. The plantation retains a fairly diverse ground flora, particularly along open rides and the lane. Small rocky outcrops can be found at the far south of the site.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Adjacent marshy grasslands were not examined during the survey but could be investigated in the future for their biodiversity value and possible designation.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

No recent management was apparent at the time of the survey, but thinning is likely to take place from time to time. Since the majority of the woodland is a forestry crop, the timber could be harvested in the future by clear felling. In its current state the woodland could benefit from some selective felling to thin the canopy and allow more light to the ground flora. If the plantation area is felled completely re-planting with broadleaved native trees and shrubs would be preferential. Himalayan balsam is present at the site and will require management to prevent its spread and retain biodiversity value, its removal is recommended. Public access to the site is minimal and could be improved for the enjoyment of local people.

Recommendations for future management:

- Woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage woodland ground flora.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

Landowner: Forest Enterprise

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Woodland and scrub species

Commercially planted conifer species with pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, Scots pine *Pinus sylvestris*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, horse chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, wood sage *Teucrium scorodonia*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, polypody *Polypodium vulgare*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, red campion *Silene dioica*, wood false brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, hart's tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, wild strawberry *Fragaria vesca*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, yellow pimpernel *Lysimachia nemorum*, welsh poppy *Meconopsis cambrica*, hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, dog violet *Viola riviana*, lord's and ladies *Arum maculatum*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, dog's mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, golden rod *Solidago virgaurea*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*.

Faunal species

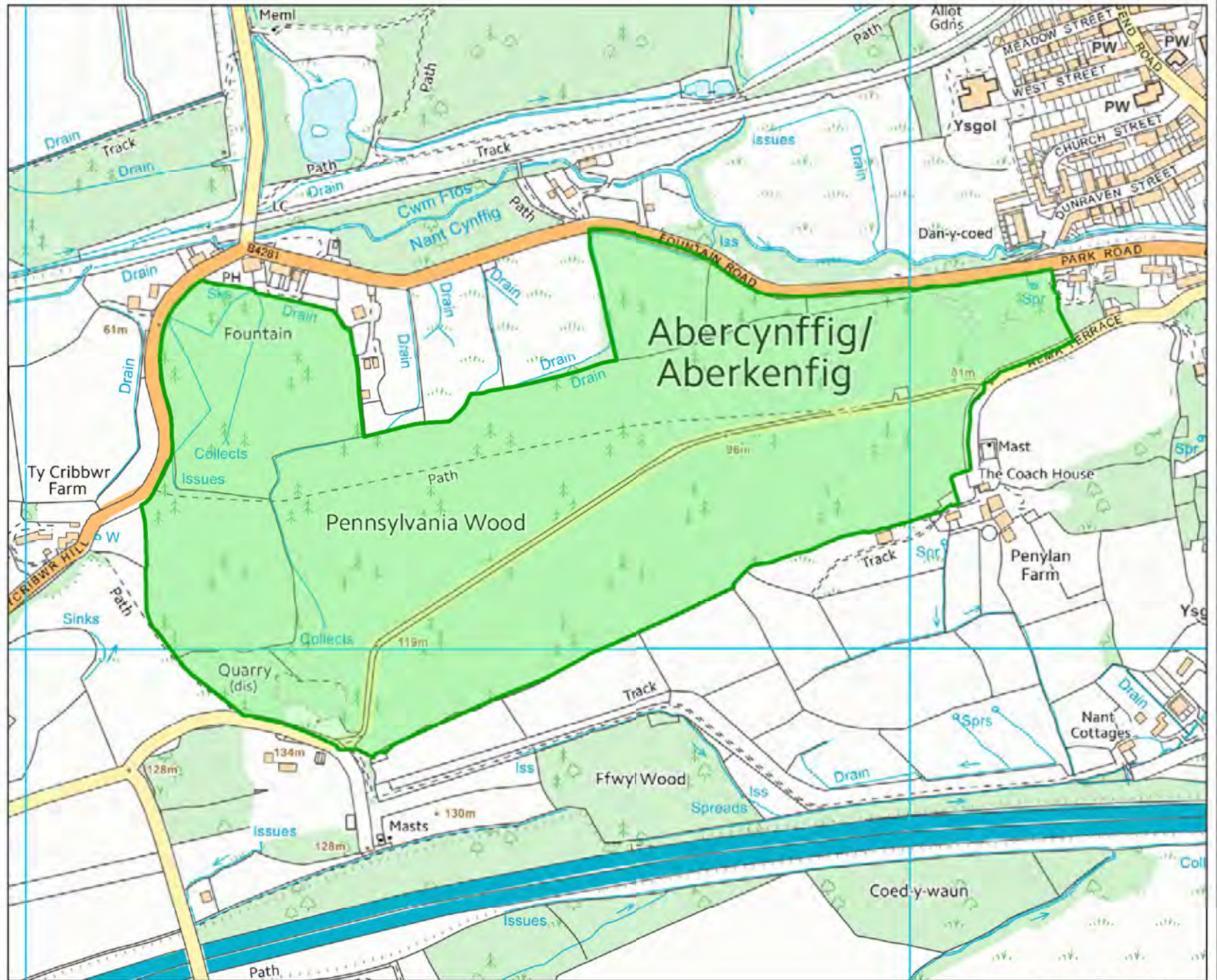
Greater spotted woodpecker

Faunal species from data search (0m)

None



NH-2-N
Pennsylvania Wood



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-3-M

SINC name: Penyfai Common

Grid reference: SS894827

Area (hectares): 22.70

Survey date: 21 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This large area of common mostly comprises a mosaic of semi-improved acid grassland, bracken and tall herbs, scrub and woodland. The wooded areas are generally rather young, species-poor stands of Grey Willow and Bramble scrub, but there are a few areas of older woodland with canopy species including Oak and Downy Birch with ground flora species including Bluebell and Common Dog-violet. Alder is locally common beside the Ogmore River at the eastern boundary. The grassland areas are ungrazed and most are becoming dominated by tall, tussocky grasses, Bracken and tall herbs including abundant Indian Balsam. A few small patches have occasional marshy grassland indicator species, including Devil's-bit Scabious, Tormentil and Sawwort, but these are relatively rare. A few patches include elements of neutral grassland, with Fleabane, Hard Rush, Agrimony, Common-spotted Orchids and ant-hills.

Qualifying features

Mosaic of at least three habitat types, at least one of which approaches selection status.
Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Secondary features

Dense and scattered scrub. Dense Bracken and tall herb vegetation.
Semi-improved grassland. Streams, river and ponds.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site is likely to provide good foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.
Likely to support a good range of breeding birds.
Potential to support Dormice.
Several parts have potential to support reptiles.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The common generally appears to be in a poor condition for nature conservation, as scrub and tall herbs have largely replaced the more diverse grassland communities. The scrub woodland areas may gradually increase in value as the habitat matures.

None of the area appears to be grazed. The only vegetation management appears to be for amenity purposes, with playing fields, paths and areas near to houses being maintained by regular mowing. The few remaining open patches would need urgent intervention if they are to retain their nature conservation value as grassland habitat.

Tipping of domestic and garden refuse was noted at several places near to roads.

Indian Balsam is widespread and locally abundant. Japanese Knotweed also occurs in a few places, especially in the east of the area.

Recommendations for future management:

- Re-introduction of grazing through the whole site if possible. Preferably light grazing by horses or cattle. This would need to be implemented very soon if the last remnants of semi-natural grassland are to be retained.
- Local cutting back of scrub to limit encroachment into grassland habitat.
- Local Bracken control to maintain grassland habitat (in addition to re-instating grazing).

- Control of invasive species, especially Indian Balsam.
- Remove tipped material, and try to prevent further tipping.
- Control measures for litter and dog-fouling near paths.
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Creation of at least one new pond.
- Create an artificial Otter holt in a quiet location beside the river.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

Several parts within this SINC would not meet the selection criteria if assessed on their own. However, they have been retained within the designated area as secondary features or because they form part of a habitat mosaic.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub canopy species: *Salix cinerea*, *Quercus robur*, *Betula pubescens*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Hedera helix*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Corylus avellana*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Lonicera periclymenum*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Malus domestica*, *Populus cf canadensis*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Aesculus hippocastanum*, *Rosa arvensis*, *Rosa canina*, *Salix viminalis*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Crataegus x lavallei*, *Prunus avium*.

Woodland and scrub ground flora species: *Urtica dioica*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Viola riviniana*, *Geum urbanum*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Geranium robertianum*, *Heracleum sphondylium*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Epilobium montanum*, *Equisetum arvense*, *Iris pseudacorus*, *Lapsana communis*, *Caltha palustris*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Apium nodiflorum*, *Solanum dulcamara*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Bromopsis ramosa*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Polystichum setiferum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Brachythecium rutabulum*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Plagiomnium undulatum*, *Thuidium tamariscinum*, *Mnium hornum*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Eurhynchium striatum*.

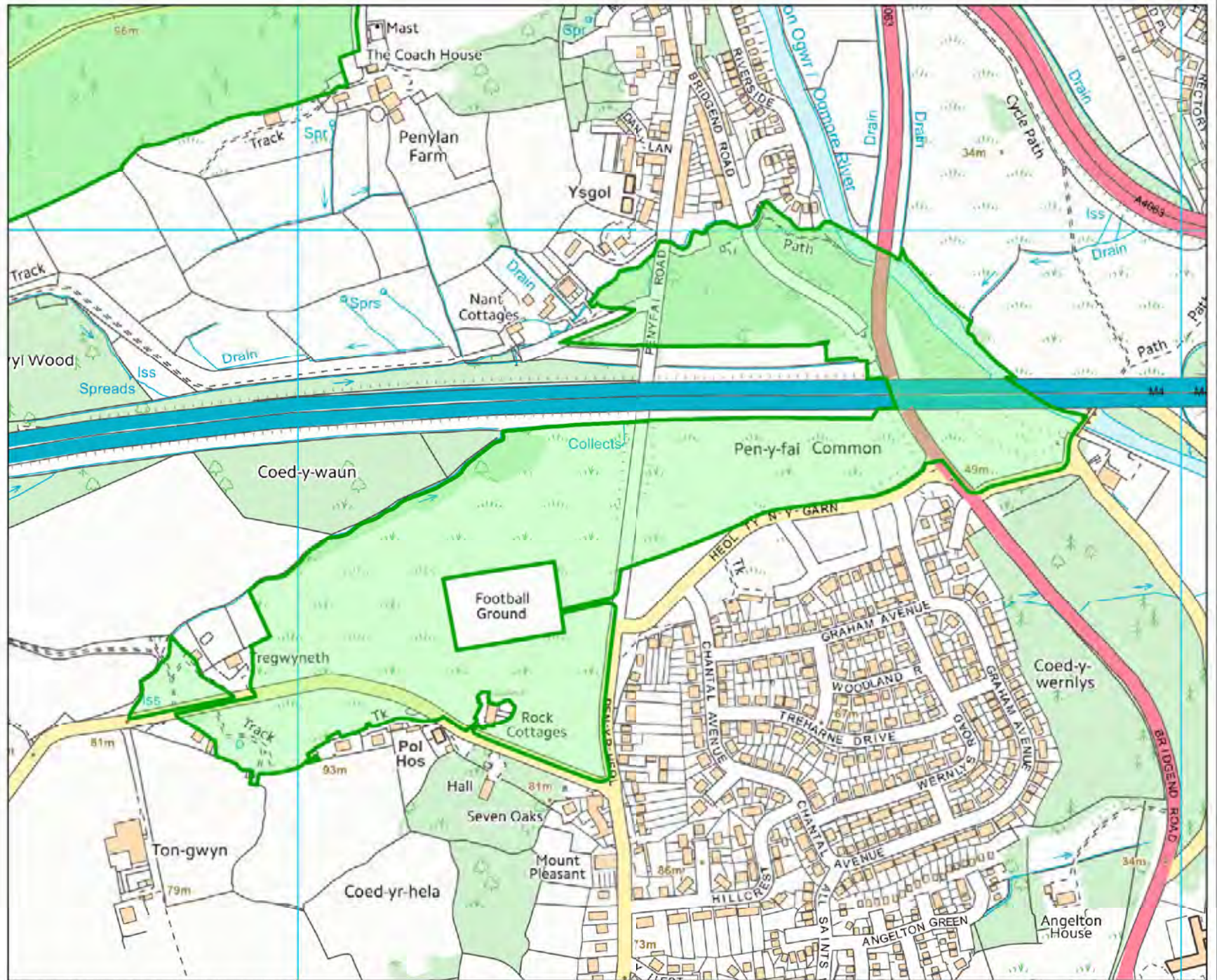
Grassland species (all patches combined, often merging with scrub ground flora): *Dactylis glomerata*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Lolium perenne*, *Arrhenatherum elatius*, *Phleum pratense*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Festuca rubra*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Phalaris arundinacea*, *Phragmites australis*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Elytrigia repens*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Bromopsis ramosa*, *Carex flacca*, *Carex hirta*, *Carex otrubae*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus inflexus*, *Juncus tenuis*, *Juncus articulatus*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Pulicaria dysenterica*, *Trifolium repens*, *Plantago lanceolata*, *Trifolium pratense*, *Ranunculus acris*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Heracleum sphondylium*, *Rumex crispus*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*, *Agrimonia eupatoria*, *Vicia sepium*, *Vicia cracca*, *Centaurea nigra*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Galeopsis tetrahit*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Typha latifolia*, *Epilobium hirsutum*, *Chamerion angustifolium*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Lathyrus pratensis*, *Potentilla anserina*, *Senecio jacobaea*, *Senecio erucifolius*, *Eupatorium cannabinum*, *Prunella vulgaris*, *Cerastium fontanum*, *Torilis japonica*, *Tussilago farfara*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Hieracium sp.*, *Succisa pratensis*, *Serratula tinctoria*, *Solidago virgaurea*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Stachys officinalis*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Calliargonella cuspidata*, *Rhytidadelphus squarrosus*.

Fauna observations: Goldfinch, Jackdaw, Bullfinch, Chaffinch, Jay.

Additional species noted from desk study: Meadow Thistle (1990), Whorled Caraway (1986), Barn Owl (within 100m of boundary, 2008), Dingy Skipper (within 150m of boundary, 2011), Common Pipistrelle (within 350m of boundary, 2004).



NH-3-M
Penyfai Common



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-4-S

SINC name: Cefn Cribwr Wood

Grid reference: SS878824

Area (hectares): 8.15

Survey date: 21 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

A block of broad-leaved woodland which comprises a mosaic of woodland age and species composition. The older parts have a canopy of Oak, Ash and Hazel. Some of the oldest trees are present beside a steep-sided small stream that flows through the wood. Younger parts include Ash, Beech, Sweet Chestnut and occasional conifers. Cherry Laurel is dominant in a few places. A few more open patches support Birch with a ground flora of Bracken and Bramble. The ground flora is variable, but generally consists of Bramble and Ivy with locally abundant Broad Buckler-fern and a sparse mix of typical woodland indicators including Bluebell, Wood Speedwell and Common Dog-violet. A few damper areas include Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage, Remote Sedge, Angelica and Meadowsweet.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Secondary features

Stream.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.

Potential to support Dormice.

Likely to provide good habitat for a range of woodland birds.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodland generally appears to be in a reasonable condition for nature conservation. Several vehicle tracks through the woodland appear to be kept clear for access. The site appears to have been managed by coppicing until more recently than most other woods in the county. Some of the woodland appears to be relatively young plantation, but there does not appear to have been any recent felling, coppicing or thinning. It would be beneficial to remove the Cherry Laurel.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Consider gradually replacing non-native canopy species with native species such as Oak, Hazel, Ash and Field Maple.
- Remove non-native Cherry Laurel and Rhododendron.
- Diversify woodland structure with features such as sunny rides and glades, or a pond.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks and use of aerial photography. Further survey would be beneficial, particularly to check breeding birds and ground flora in spring.

Some of the younger parts of the woodland would not meet the SINC criteria if assessed on their own, but are included because they form part of a larger woodland block. The adjoining hedges and motorway tree planting are not included in the SINC area but are likely to have a role in connecting this woodland with wildlife in the wider landscape.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy species: *Quercus robur*, *Corylus avellana*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Castanea sativa*, *Betula pubescens*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Hedera helix*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Prunus avium*, *Lonicera periclymenum*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Prunus laurocerasus*, *Taxus baccata*, *Picea sitchensis*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Salix cinerea*, *Ribes uva-crispa*.

Woodland ground flora species: *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Viola riviniana*, *Veronica montana*, *Hypericum androsaemum*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Ajuga reptans*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Tamus communis*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Geum urbanum*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Urtica dioica*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Galium palustre*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Dryopteris affinis*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Thuidium tamariscinum*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Mnium hornum*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Plagiochila porelloides*.

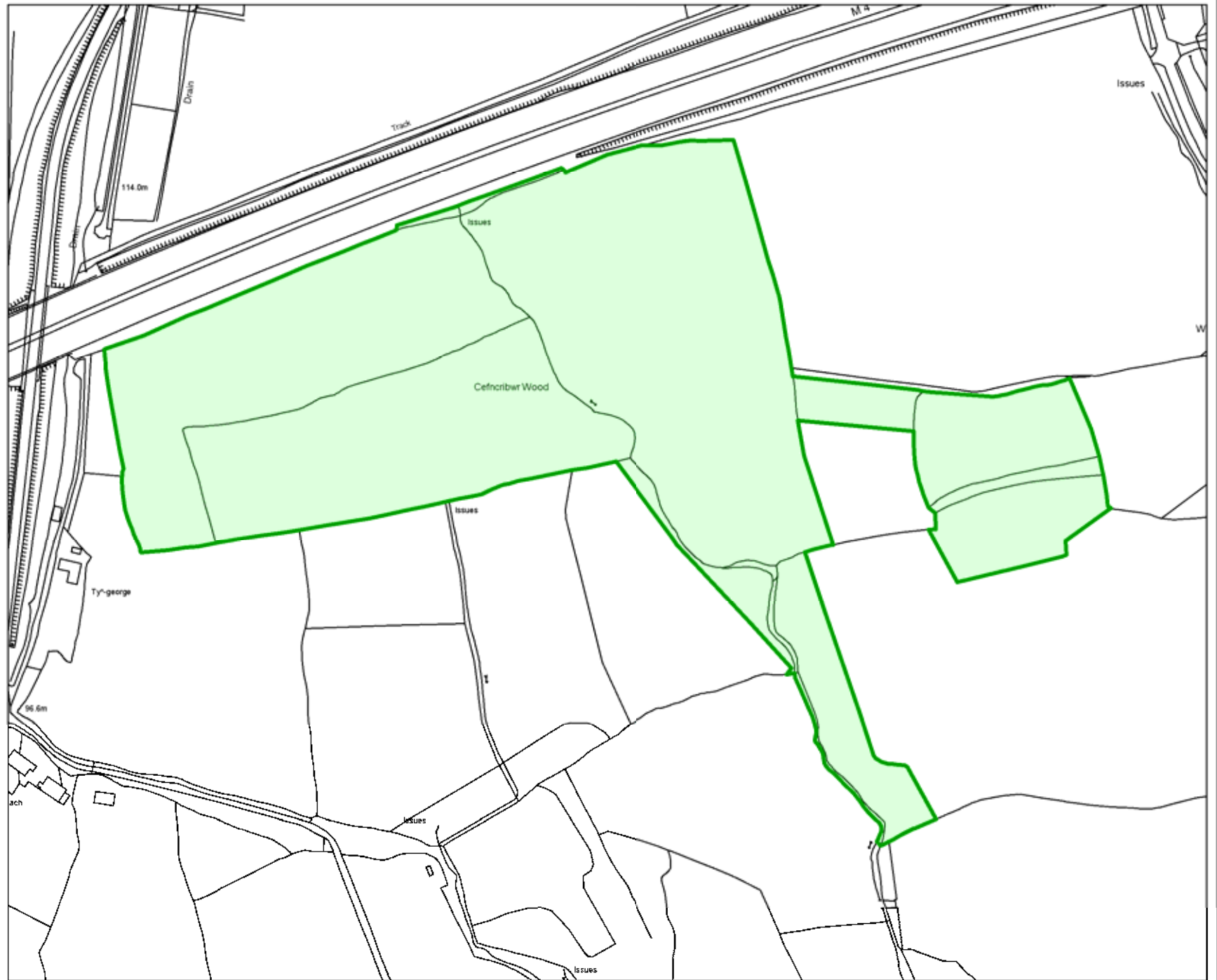
Fauna observations: (None.)

Additional species noted from desk study: Unidentified bat (within 150m of boundary, 2009), Marsh Fritillary (within 300m of boundary, 1994).



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

NH-4-S
Cefn Cribwr Wood



Map generated by: AQ
 Date: 02/08/2013

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 Cities Revealed Aerial Photography copyright, The GeoInformation Group (2013)

Scale 1:4,000 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-5-N

SINC name: Ffwyl Wood (South)

Grid reference: SS885826

Area (hectares): 3.86

Survey date: 21 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

A mixed plantation woodland with a canopy mainly dominated by mature Larch, Sycamore, Oak and Ash. The ground flora generally consists of Bramble, Broad Buckler-fern and Ivy with a range of typical woodland plants including Bluebell, Common Dog-violet, Wood Sorrel and Wood Sedge. There are local areas of wet ground with Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage. The lane along the southern side of the site has old hedge-banks on both sides, shaded by mature oak trees. The hedge banks have a diverse hedge ground flora, locally including Bilberry and Devil's-bit Scabious.

Qualifying features

Mixed woodland that has an assemblage of semi-natural ground flora indicator species.
Green lane with continuous semi-natural woody boundaries on both sides.

Secondary features

Banks and ditches.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.

Potential to support Dormice.

Potential to support Badgers.

Likely to provide good habitat for a range of woodland birds.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodland canopy includes a high proportion of non-native trees, but the ground flora mostly appears to be in a reasonable condition for nature conservation. There does not appear to be any active woodland management. Gradual replacement of the canopy by native broadleaved trees would be beneficial for wildlife.

Indian Balsam, Montbretia, Cherry Laurel and Wilson's Honeysuckle occur patchily in the woodland, especially near to the boundary. It would be beneficial to remove these to limit their spread into the woodland.

Recommendations for future management:

- Consider gradually replacing the conifer trees with native species such as Oak, Ash and Hazel.
- Control of invasive species, particularly Indian Balsam.
- Remove non-native Cherry Laurel and Wilson's Honeysuckle.
- Removal of litter.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks and use of aerial photography. Further survey would be beneficial, particularly to check breeding birds and ground flora in spring.

The eastern part contains a tarpaulin shelter, apparently used by someone sleeping rough in the woodland.

The adjacent field (SS888826) supports dense scrub / young Willow and Ash trees (new plantation or naturally sown?). It is feasible that this may become continuous with the other nearby woodland if it develops to mature woodland. Indian Balsam appears to be locally abundant in the field.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and hedge-bank canopy species: *Larix sp.*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Quercus robur*, *Corylus avellana*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Hedera helix*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Lonicera periclymenum*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Taxus baccata*, *Salix cinerea*, *Ulmus glabra*, *Betula pubescens*, *Prunus laurocerasus*, *Lonicera nitida*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Rosa arvensis*, *Malus domestica*.

Woodland and hedge-bank ground flora species: *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Viola riviniana*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Geranium robertianum*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Arum maculatum*, *Crocsmia crocosmiiflora*, *Oxalis acetosella*, *Fragaria vesca*, *Solidago virgaurea*, *Geum urbanum*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Succisa pratensis*, *Urtica dioica*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Festuca gigantea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Carex remota*, *Carex sylvatica*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Dryopteris affinis*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Thuidium tamariscinum*, *Mnium hornum*, *Plagiomnium undulatum*, *Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Eurhynchium striatum*, *Pseudoscleropodium purum*, *Plagiochila porelloides*.

Fauna observations: (Possible Badger path?)

Additional species noted from desk study: Marsh Fritillary (within 300m of boundary, 1994).



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

NH-5-N
 Ffwyl Wood



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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-6-N

SINC name: Ffwyl Wood North

Grid reference: SS 886 828

Area (hectares): 2.45

Survey date: 28/09/2011

Surveyor: Rebecca East

Summary description

Small area of broadleaved woodland which is adjacent to the highway planting on the M4. The woodland retains some indicator species in its ground flora.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Secondary features

Ponds

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The woodland may be suitable for dormice since it is reasonably well connected to other woodland and hedgerow habitat. Bats are likely to use the area for foraging and possibly roosting and a diversity of birds are likely to using the habitat. Mammal tracks noted on the survey may indicate a badger sett nearby. The pond is likely to support breeding amphibians and grass snake. Other reptile species may be found around the woodland edge.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodland is fenced from the horses kept in surrounding fields, but appears unmanaged. The exception to this is a large rabbit enclosure where bramble is kept to a minimum. Since the woodland ground flora is dominated with bramble, this suggests a decline in the biodiversity value due to shading. The woodland would benefit from selective felling and coppicing with some bramble scrub control. The pond present at the edge of the woodland would benefit from some marginal species, but some open water would need to be maintained into the future where the pond is partially cleared, periodically. Himalayan balsam is present within the site boundary and may compromise the biodiversity value of the woodland ground flora if left unmanaged. It is therefore recommended that invasive species are removed.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning and coppicing, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- Rotational clearance of areas of the pond
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

A pond has been created in the field adjacent to the woodland and might be considered for inclusion in the designation boundary. No pond sampling was undertaken at the time of this visit.

Landowner: Mrs Delyth Thomas, Penylan Farm, Aberkenfig

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub species

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, beech *Fagus sylvatica*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, wood sedge *Carex sylvatica*, dog violet *Viola riviana*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, yellow pimpernel *Lysimachia nemorum*, scaly male fern *Dryopteris affinis*, red campion *Silene dioica*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, raspberry *Rubus idaeus*, wood sage *Teucrium scorodonia*.

Faunal species

Mammal pathways leading down steep embankment

Faunal species from data search (0m)

None



NH-6-N
Ffwyl Wood (North)



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-7-S

SINC name: Coed-y-Waun

Grid reference: SS890827

Area (hectares): 2.38

Survey date: 21 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

Broad-leaved woodland which is classified as semi-natural ancient woodland. It has a canopy of Ash, Oak and Sycamore, with occasional Beech, Wych Elm and Alder. The oldest trees appear to be a row of Oaks along the southern boundary bank. There is a dense understorey of Bramble, Guelder Rose and Hazel. The ground flora includes several typical old woodland indicator species. Bluebells are locally abundant in drier parts, while damper areas support Remote Sedge and Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural ancient woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Secondary features

Banks and ditches.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.

Potential to support Dormice.

Potential to support Badgers.

Likely to provide good habitat for a range of woodland birds.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodland appears to be in a reasonable condition for nature conservation. There does not appear to be any active woodland management. Indian Balsam is present in a few places, especially along the southern boundary. It would be beneficial to remove this to limit its spread into the woodland.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of invasive Indian Balsam.
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks and use of aerial photography. Further survey would be beneficial, particularly to check breeding birds and ground flora in spring.

The adjacent field (SS888826) supports dense scrub / young Willow and Ash trees (new plantation or naturally sown?). It is feasible that this may become continuous with the other nearby woodland if it develops to mature woodland. Indian Balsam appears to be locally abundant in the field.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and hedge-bank canopy species: *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Quercus robur*, *Corylus avellana*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Ulmus glabra*, *Viburnum opulus*, *Lonicera periclymenum*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Rosa arvensis*, *Hedera helix*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Salix cinerea*, *Ribes uva-crispa*.

Woodland and hedge-bank ground flora species: *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Veronica montana*, *Solidago virgaurea*, *Viola riviniana*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Carex sylvatica*, *Carex remota*, *Carex pendula*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Eurhynchium striatum*, *Thamnobryum alopecurum*, *Mnium hornum*, *Thuidium tamariscinum*, *Plagiomnium undulatum*, *Plagiochila porelloides*.

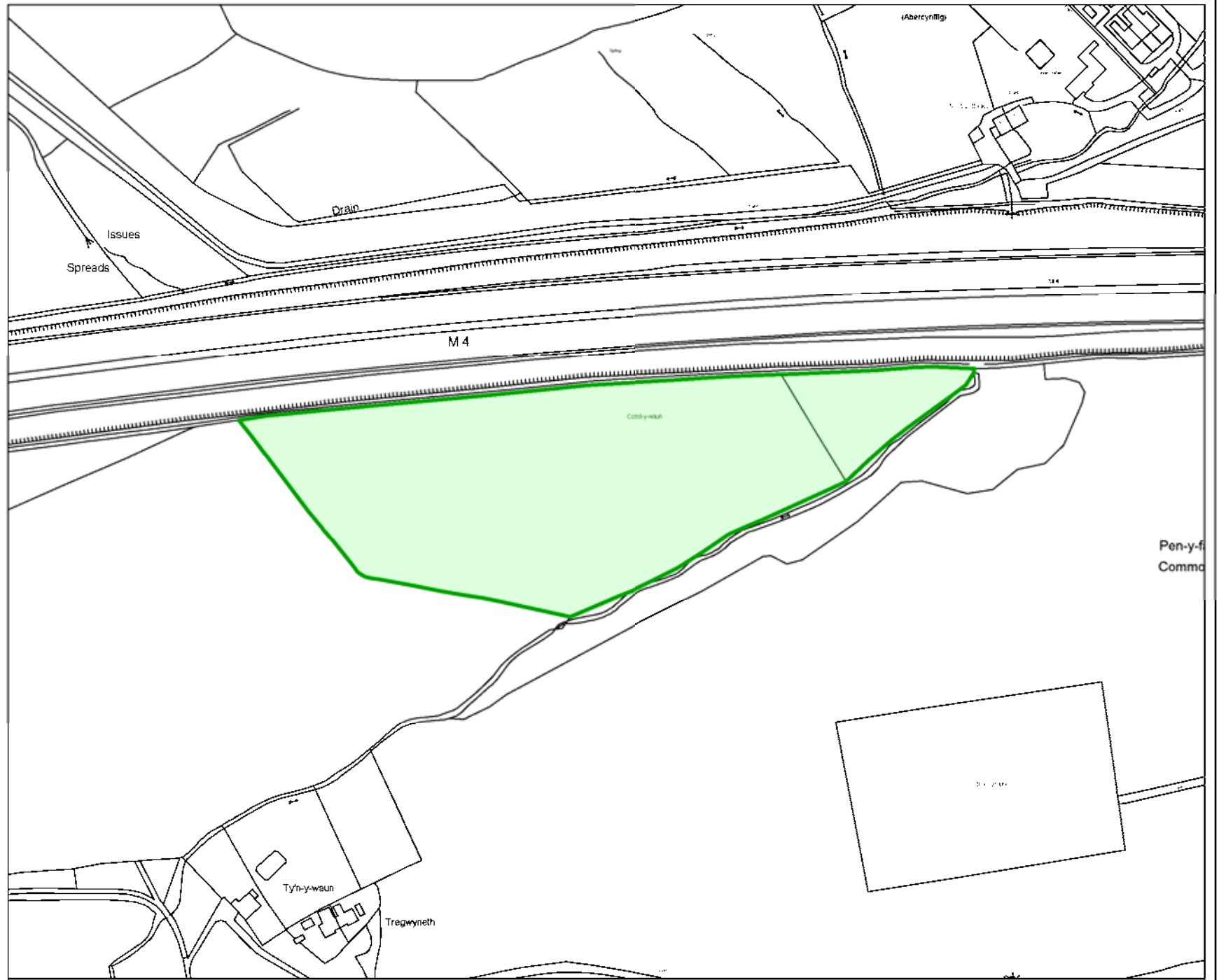
Fauna observations: Nuthatch.

Additional species noted from desk study: (None).



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

NH-7-S
Coed-y-Waun



Map generated by: AQ
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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-8-S

SINC name: Coed-yr-Hela

Grid reference: SS892823

Area (hectares): 2.24

Survey date: 21 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

Mature broad-leaved woodland with a canopy dominated by Oak. Other tree species include Ash, Wych Elm and occasional Beech and Sycamore. There is an understorey of Bramble, Hawthorn, Hazel and Holly, and the ground flora is dominated by Ivy, ferns and Dog's Mercury. Bracken is locally frequent. There are several shallow shaded pools near the centre of the woodland, possibly resulting from former mining or quarrying. The pools are bordered by a damp woodland ground flora that includes Tufted Hair-grass, Wood Sedge, Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage and Sanicle. There is a recently constructed footpath around the wood.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Secondary features

Temporary pools.

Scrub.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.

Likely to provide good habitat for woodland birds.

Potential habitat for Dormice.

Potential breeding and foraging habitat for amphibians.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodland is generally in good condition for nature conservation. It appears to be actively managed, and signs of this include recently installed nest boxes, recent thinning and ditch maintenance and the new footpath.

The woodland is used for tipping garden refuse from gardens at the south-east side. There is a break in the southern fence which is used as an access into the wood, and Indian Balsam appears to be spreading from this point. It would be beneficial to control the Indian Balsam before it becomes well established within the wood. A few small plants of the invasive Himalayan Cotoneaster are also present and would best be removed from the woodland.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of invasive species.
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Local tree felling to allow more light and direct rainfall into some of the shallow woodland ponds.

Additional information:

Further survey would be beneficial, particularly to check the ground flora and breeding birds in spring.

The adjoining hedges and scrub are not included in the SINC area but are likely to have a role in connecting this woodland with wildlife in the wider landscape. The scrub at the northern side of the wood may qualify for inclusion in the SINC in future if it continues to develop as woodland habitat.

The shaded pools appear to be derived from former mining or quarrying and may be of historic or archaeological significance.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: *Quercus robur*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Ulmus glabra*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Corylus avellana*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Hedera helix*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Lonicera periclymenum*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Rosa arvensis*, *Euonymus europaeus*, *Ribes cf sanguineus*, *Malus sylvestris*, *Cotoneaster simonsii*.

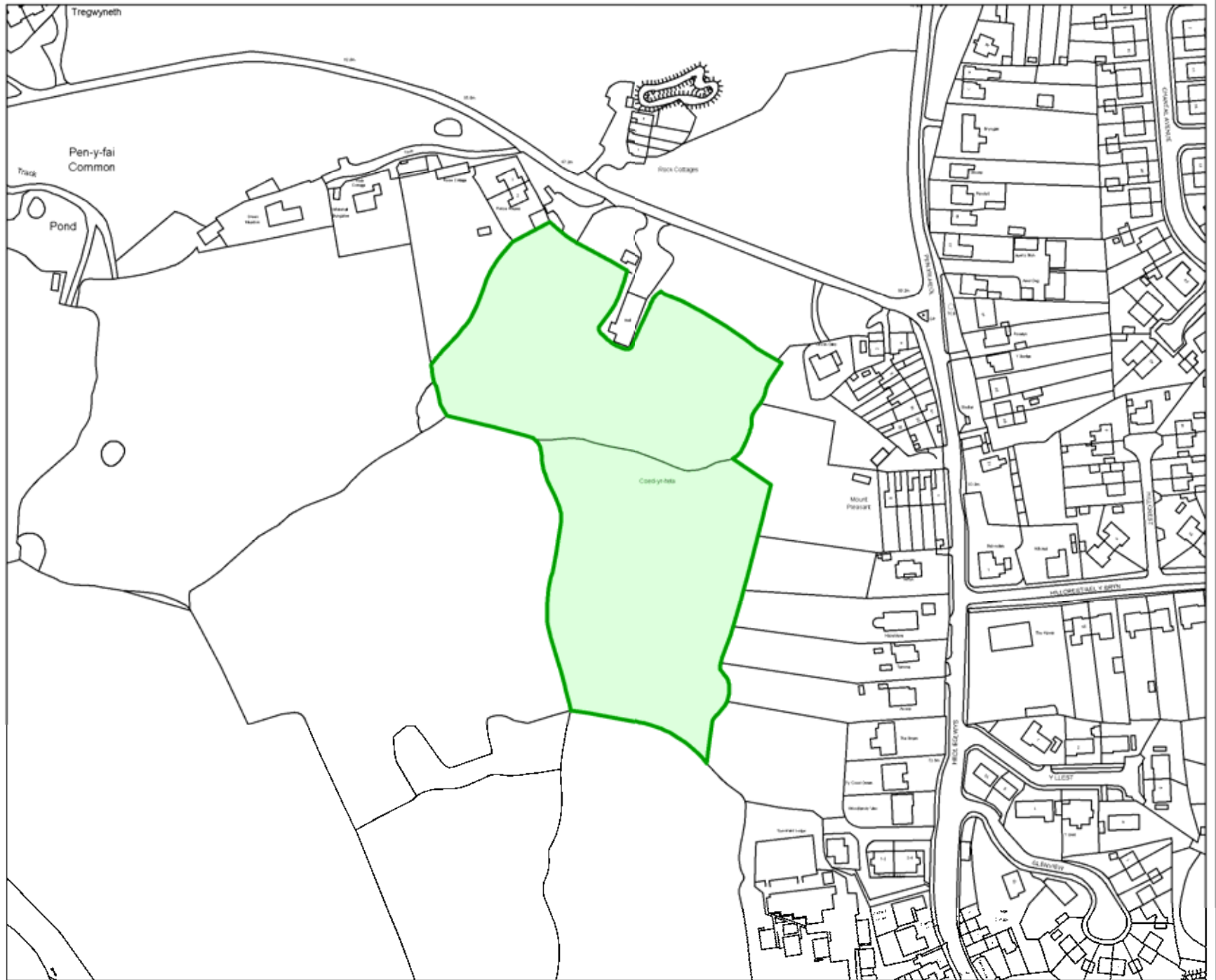
Ground flora species: *Mercurialis perennis*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Geum urbanum*, *Arum maculatum*, *Geranium robertianum*, *Anthriscus sylvestris*, *Veronica montana*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Silene dioica*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Urtica dioica*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Scrophularia nodosa*, *Primula vulgaris*, *Sanicula europaea*, *Alliaria petiolata*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Festuca gigantea*, *Carex sylvatica*, *Carex remota*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Polystichum setiferum*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Isoethecium myosuroides*, *Mnium hornum*, *Thamnobryum alopecurum*.

Fauna observations: Nuthatch, Blackbird, Coal Tit, Jay, Bullfinch.

Additional species noted from desk study: Orange-tip, Brimstone and Small White butterflies (records from 1999).



NH-8-S
Coed-yr-Hela



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-9-N

SINC name: Longacre Meadow

Grid reference: SS 882 828

Area (hectares): 1.68

Survey date: 28/09/2011

Surveyor: Rebecca East

Summary description

Small site consisting of an area of marshy grassland with scrub woodland on either side.

Qualifying features

The data collected on this site contains insufficient indicator species for either habitat area to qualify as SINC quality.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Although the woodland area itself is small, in combination with adjacent woodlands and hedgerows, dormice could be present. The site as a whole may be used by foraging bats and birds.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The grassland areas appear to be intensively managed by the owner possibly to create a garden lawn, but the wooded areas are fenced and are presumably not managed. The biodiversity interest of the site is in decline due to inappropriate management. The rush pasture area is mown too regularly to allow flowering species to become established. Grazing would be a more appropriate management technique, but failing this irregular cutting could mimic grazing. The small woodland areas are dense and could benefit from some selective felling while the other areas could be treated as hedges and layed. Himalayan balsam is present within the site and may encroach on any remaining biodiversity interest if allowed to spread; its removal is therefore recommended.

Recommendations for future management:

- Land owner should be encouraged to reduce the intensity of the management of the grassland.
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

The grassland area had been cut very recently at the time of survey making species identification difficult.

A further survey may be required to find more marshy grassland indicators while the sward is longer.

Landowner: Mr G Badesha, Coahmans's Lane, Court Coleman, Longacre

Note: The landowner was reluctant to allow the survey to go ahead and may not be receptive to any further contact from BCBC

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Grassland flora

Fleabane, marsh bedstraw, water mint, marsh thistle, hard rush, marsh pennywort, common sedge, cuckoo flower

Woodland and scrub species

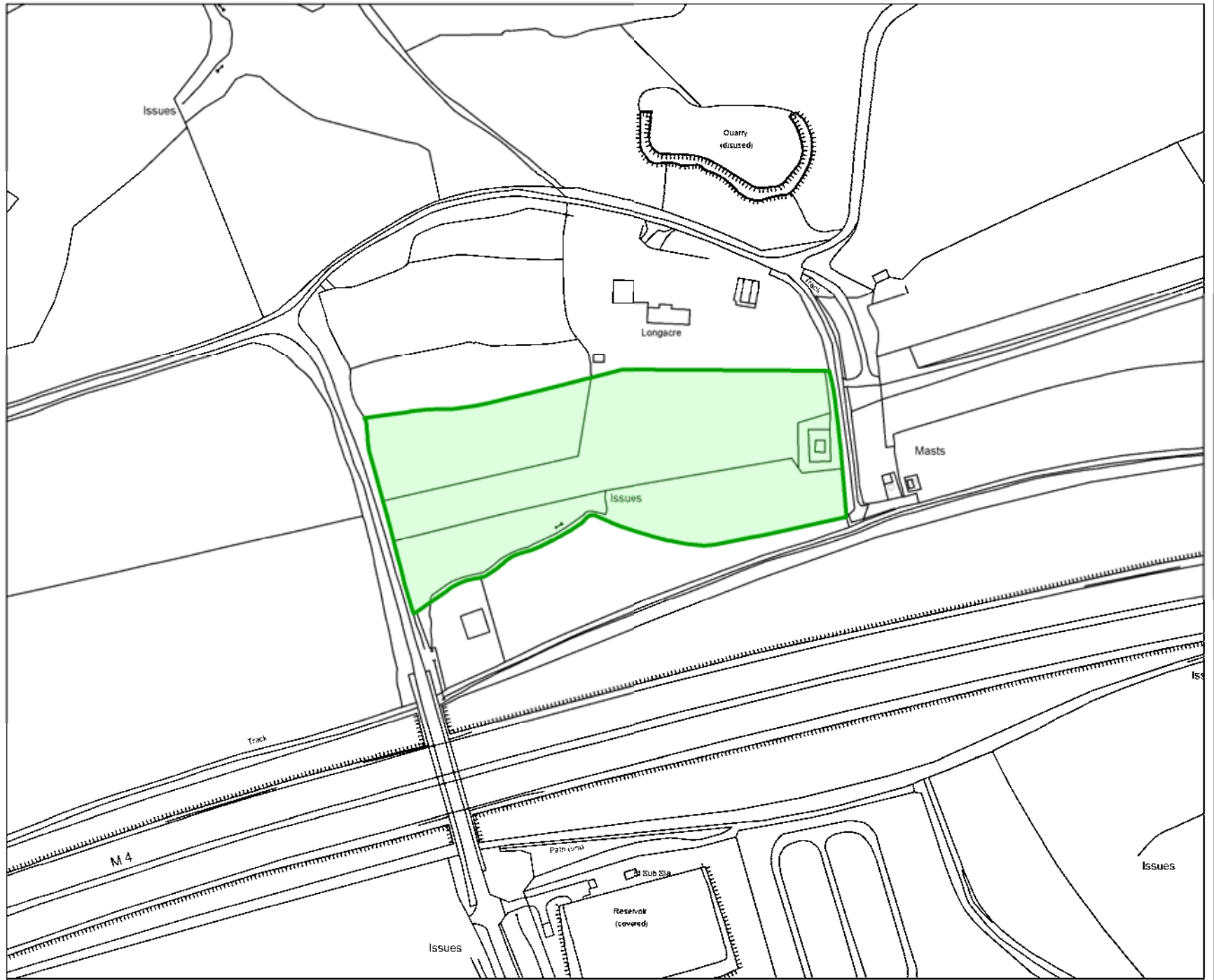
Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, wood false brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, polypody *Polypodium vulgare*, red campion *Silene dioica*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, figwort *Scrophularia nodosa*, dog violet *Viola riviana*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*.

Faunal speciesFaunal species from data search (0m)

Kingfisher, common toad, hobby, crossbill, green sandpiper, red kite, redwing, fieldfare, adder, skylark, lesser redpoll, linnet, cuckoo, lesser spotted woodpecker, reed bunting, kestrel, herring gull, yellow wagtail, house sparrow, marsh tit, hedge accentor, grizzled skipper, bullfinch, starling, songthrush, cinnabar, lapwing, sedge warbler, reed warbler, grey heron, goldfinch, siskin, raven, coot emerald damselfly, bee orchid, black tailed skimmer, chiffchaff, lesser black throat, black darter, ruddy darter, little grebe, blackbird



NH-9-N
Longacre Meadow



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-10-N

SINC name: Court Colman Fish Pond

Grid reference: SS883817

Area (hectares): 0.65

Survey date: 9 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

A pond measuring approximately 40m x 50m, with banks shaded by over-mature landscape garden planting. Rhododendron and Grey Willow dominate the bank vegetation, and the boundary supports a number of mature specimen trees including some very large Wellingtonias (with one at least 3m diameter at the base). The ground flora comprises a relatively low diversity of common plants of damp woodland. The pond is largely shaded and turbid, with pondweed over much of its surface. There is a low, shaded island near the northern end. Several domesticated waterfowl were observed during the survey. There is a disused Badger sett below Rhododendrons at the top of the eastern bank.

Qualifying features

Mosaic of at least three habitat types, at least one of which approaches selection status.
(In this case, large parkland trees, pond and damp woodland)

Secondary features

Specimen trees.

Pond.

Stream.

Scrub/ shrubs.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.

Likely to provide habitat for woodland birds and waterfowl.

Potential breeding and foraging habitat for amphibians.

Potential to support Badgers (disused sett present).

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The pond is part of a large domestic garden but it seems to be largely unmanaged. It appears to have little semi-natural aquatic or waterside vegetation and as such it would appear to be in a relatively poor condition. However, it is still a relatively large water feature, and as such still undoubtedly supports a good range of common wetland birds and invertebrates.

Several non-native invasive species are present. Rhododendron dominates much of the bank vegetation, and Indian Balsam and Japanese Knotweed are also locally abundant. It would be beneficial to remove these to allow more valuable flora and fauna to colonise the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Remove all invasive Rhododendron, Indian Balsam and Japanese Knotweed.
- Consider locally cutting back the scrubby pond margin to encourage growth of marginal plants.
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.

Additional information:

The survey was based on spot-checks and use of binoculars from the eastern bank. The domestic garden previously included in this SINC has mostly been excluded because it does not appear to meet the SINC criteria.

Several areas around Court Colman support mature parkland/ gardens with good numbers of specimen trees. These are likely to be of local value to wildlife, but most probably fall short of the SINC criteria.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Tree and shrub species: *Rhododendron ponticum*, *Salix cinerea*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Quercus robur*, *Castanea sativa*, *Taxus baccata*, *Sequoiadendron giganteum*, *Hedera helix*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Corylus avellana*, *Lonicera periclymenum*.

Bank species: *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Urtica dioica*, *Mercurialis perennis*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Solanum dulcamara*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Vinca cf minor*, *Silene dioica*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Geranium robertianum*, *Lapsana communis*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Festuca gigantea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Carex sylvatica*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Polypodium vulgare*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Thamnobryum alopecurum*, *Plagiomnium undulatum*.

Aquatic/ marginal species: *Lemna minor*, *Potamogeton cf natans*, *Typha latifolia*, *Apium nodiflorum*, *Angelica sylvestris*.

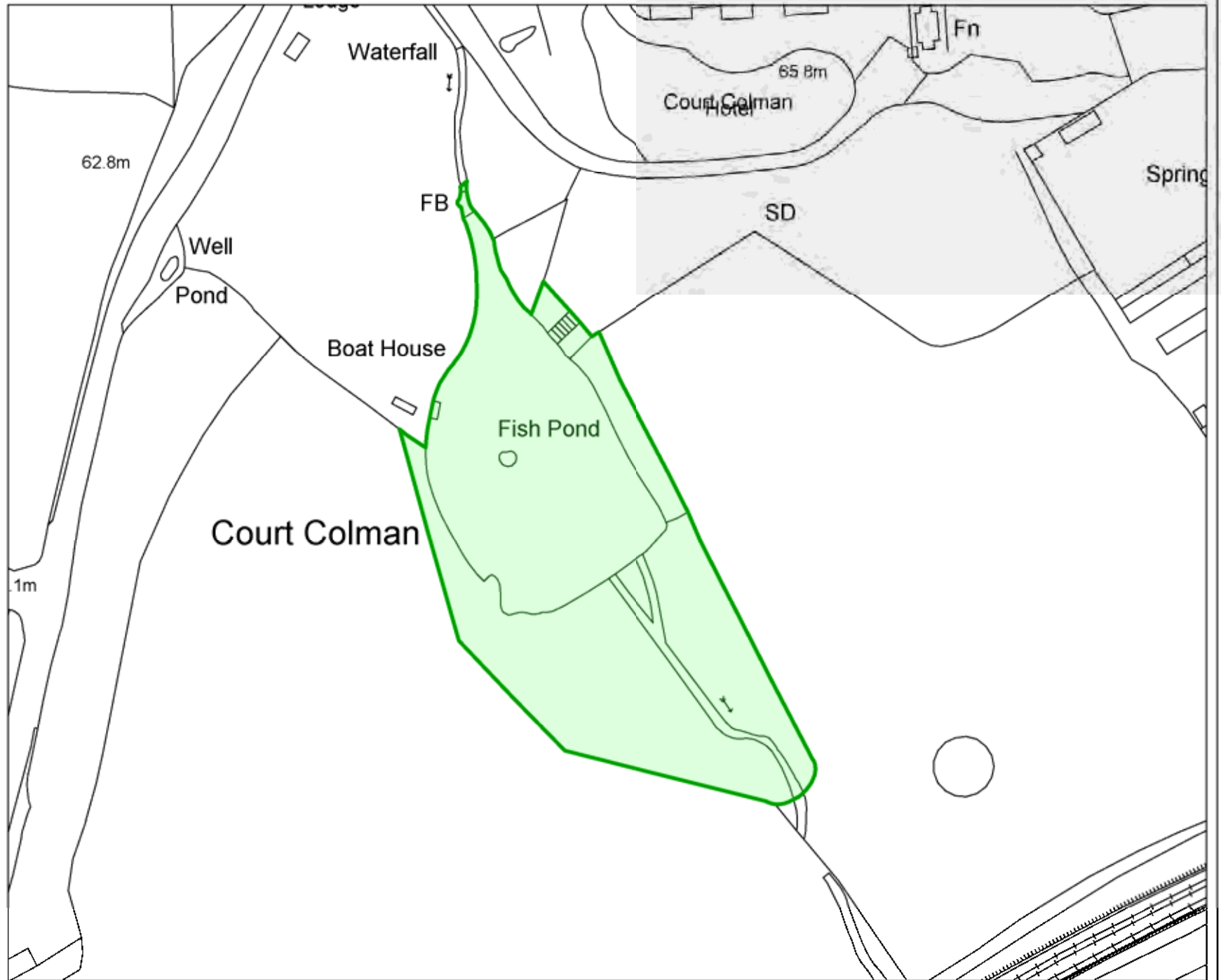
Fauna observations: Moorhen, Badger (disused sett).

Additional species noted from desk study: Unspecified bat (150m from boundary, 2009).



**BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW**

**NH-10-N
Court Colman
Fish Pond**



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 02/08/2013

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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council**SINC number:** NH-11-S**SINC name:** Penylan Farm Wood**Grid reference:** SS 892 831**Area (hectares):** 0.98**Survey date:** 28/09/2011**Surveyor:** Rebecca East**Summary description**

Small woodland area, most likely of ancient origin but retains very few indicator species.

Qualifying features**Secondary features**

Native woodland

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The woodland habitat is likely to be used by many bird species, bats and a diversity of invertebrates. There is a possibility of dormice using the site as it remains well connected to similar habitat.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodland is not fenced from grazing horses kept in the adjacent field which are likely to browse the ground flora. The degree of shading is quite high indicating that little management has taken place in recent years to open the canopy, which makes the ground flora very sparse. Himalayan balsam is dense on the north side of the woodland edge and encroaching into it, further compromising the biodiversity value of the habitat. The site is in decline and needs some intervention to halt and hopefully reverse the loss of ground flora species. Selective tree felling and the re-instatement of coppicing is the most obvious management action, with the fencing of the woodland from horses. Elimination of the invasive species present would be desirable.

Recommendations for future management:

- Consider locally excluding livestock from woodland to encourage regeneration and provide areas of dense undergrowth to give cover for nesting birds and small mammals.
- Local woodland management by thinning and coppicing as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

The adjacent woodland areas appear to have a greater abundance and diversity of ground flora and might be suitable for designation instead of or as well as Penylan Farm Wood. Should this area be managed more sensitively ground flora species may be able to re-colonise from the adjacent area.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub species

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, red campion *Silene dioica*, great woodrush *Luzula sylvatica*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*.

Faunal species

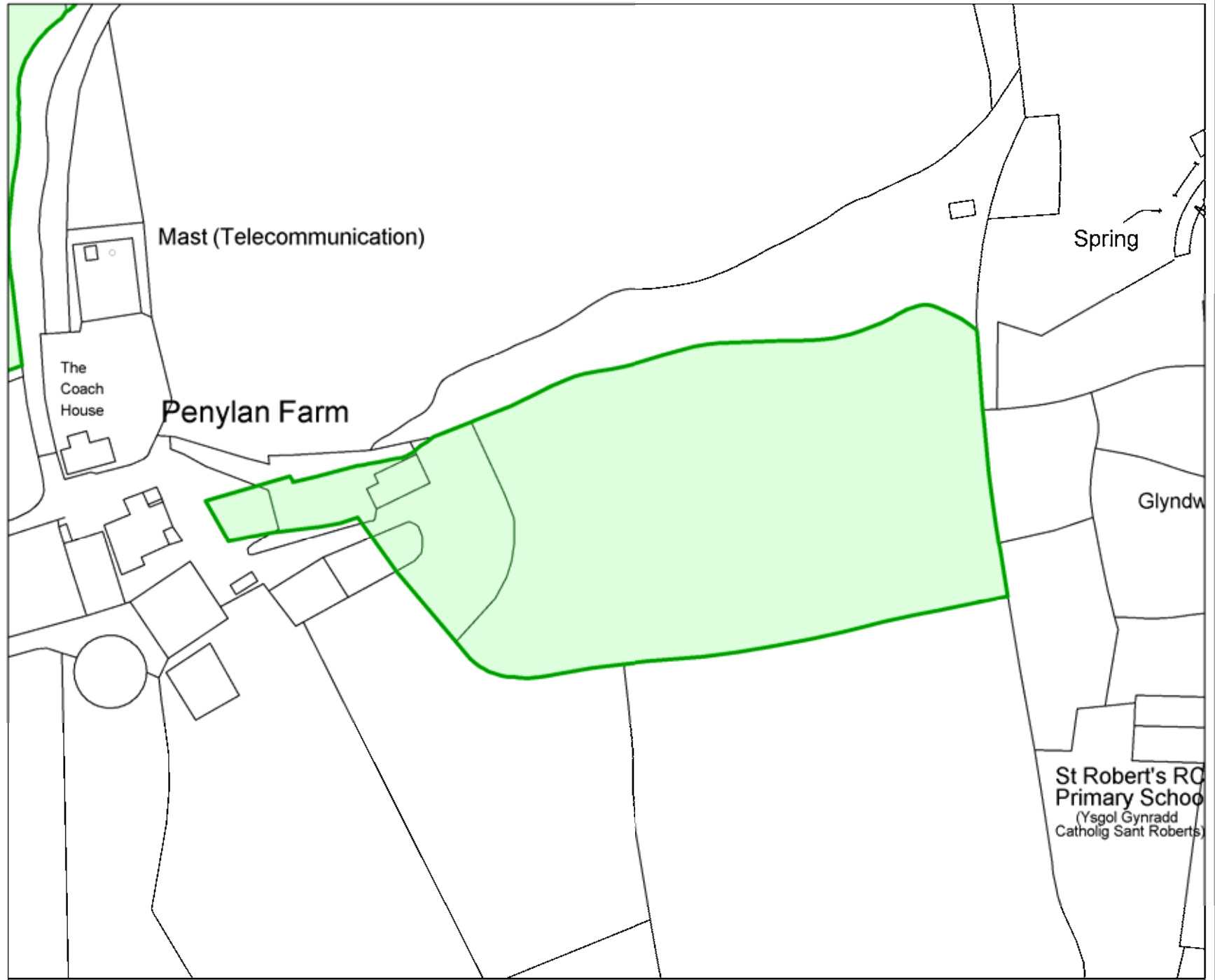
Badger latrine noted at the woodland edge, blackbird.

Faunal species from data search (0m)

none



NH-11-S
Penylan Farm Wood



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council**SINC number:** NH-12-N**SINC name:** Parc pond**Grid reference:** SS 880 842**Area (hectares):** 0.95**Survey date:** 28/09/2011**Surveyor:** Rebecca East**Summary description**

Parc pond consists mainly of open water with a small margin of scrub and woodland included in the site boundary. The pond is maintained for nature conservation and has diverse marginal plants and equally diverse invertebrate, amphibian and bird life.

Qualifying features

Ponds

Secondary features

Scrub

Native woodland

Potential value/ unconfirmed features**Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)**

The pond is currently under Wildlife Trust management for nature conservation.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continued management under the Wildlife Trust.

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub species

Faunal species

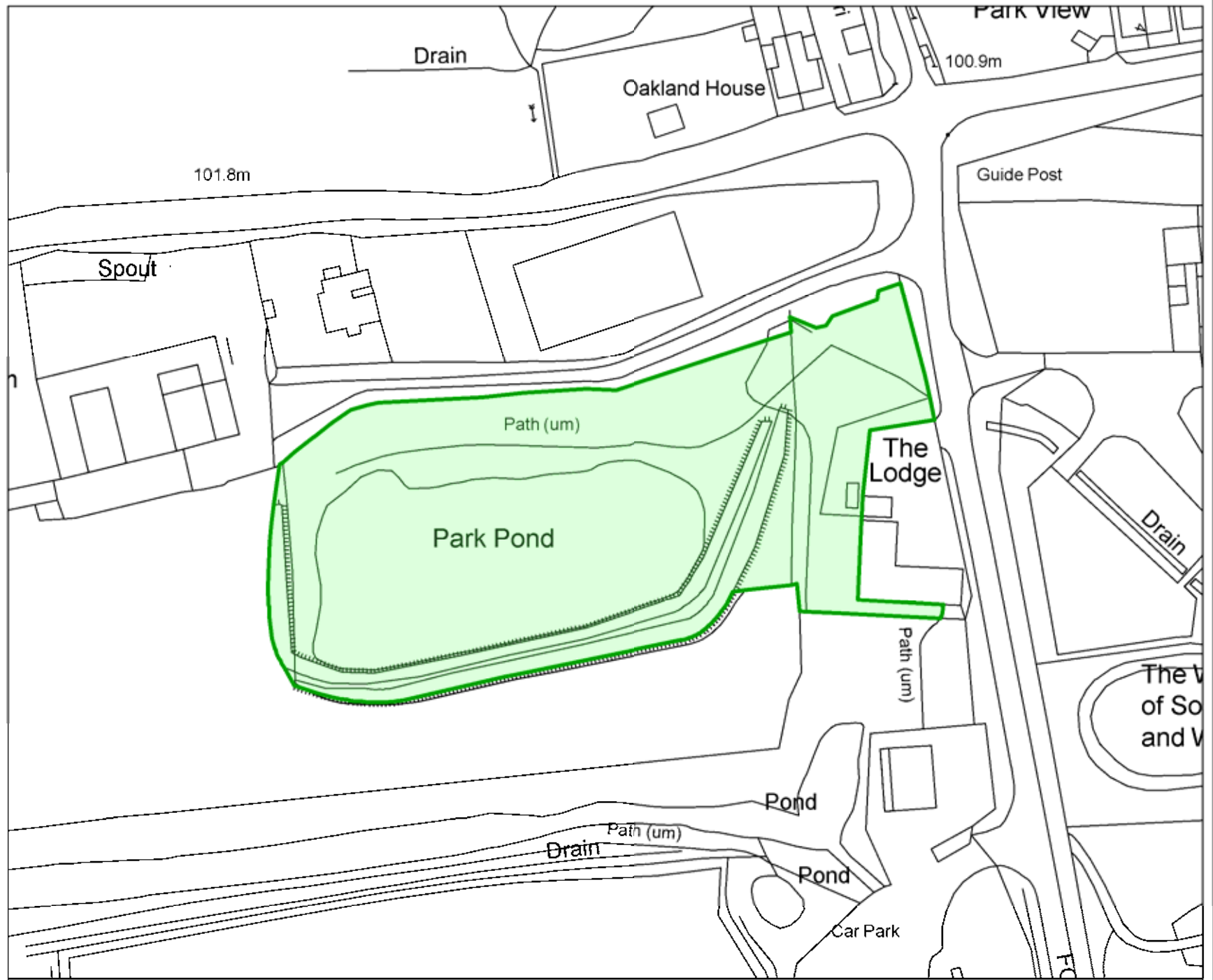
Juvenile grass snake

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Small heath, dingy skipper, wall, blood vein, cinnabar



NH-12-N
Parc Pond



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-13-N

SINC name: Angelton Common

Grid reference: SS900814

Area (hectares): 0.79

Survey date: 9 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This small area of common land supports a mosaic of scrub, tall herbs and woodland. The woodland component is dominated by Sycamore, Grey Willow, Alder and Ash with occasional Hawthorn, Oak and Hazel. Bramble and Japanese Knotweed are both abundant, leaving little space for other ground vegetation. The limited ground flora mostly includes Ivy, ferns and Indian Balsam.

Qualifying features

None.

Secondary features

Dense scrub/ woodland.

Tall herb vegetation.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Potential resting site for Otters.

Potential to provide foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.

Likely to support common breeding birds.

Potential to support Dormice (but unlikely).

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The common generally appears neglected and in an extremely poor condition for nature conservation. There is no grazing, and the only recent management that has been carried out appears to be the mowing part of the common as private lawn. Much of the area has been converted to alternative uses such as car-parking. Garden refuse (apparently from the adjacent large house) has been tipped in the east of the site.

Indian Balsam and Japanese Knotweed are both widespread and abundant through the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of invasive species.
- Remove tipped material, and take measures to prevent more tipping.
- If possible, reinstate the parts of the common that have been fenced off or built on, and return it to grassland or woodland habitat to be managed for biodiversity. (This would probably be a complex option as the current occupants are unlikely to give up the land willingly.)

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography. The parts of the common that have been fenced off as car-parks, yards and gardens were not accessed.

The quality of the site has deteriorated to such an extent that it would be extremely difficult and very costly to restore the area to a habitat of county significance. It is therefore recommended that its SINC status should be removed. [Alternatively the wooded part closest to the river could be retained as a secondary feature of the Ogmore River SINC, when this is designated.]

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland / scrub canopy species: *Salix cinerea*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Hedera helix*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Buddleja davidii*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Symphoricarpos albus*, *Malus domestica*, *Quercus robur*, *Corylus avellana*, *Ulex europaeus*, .

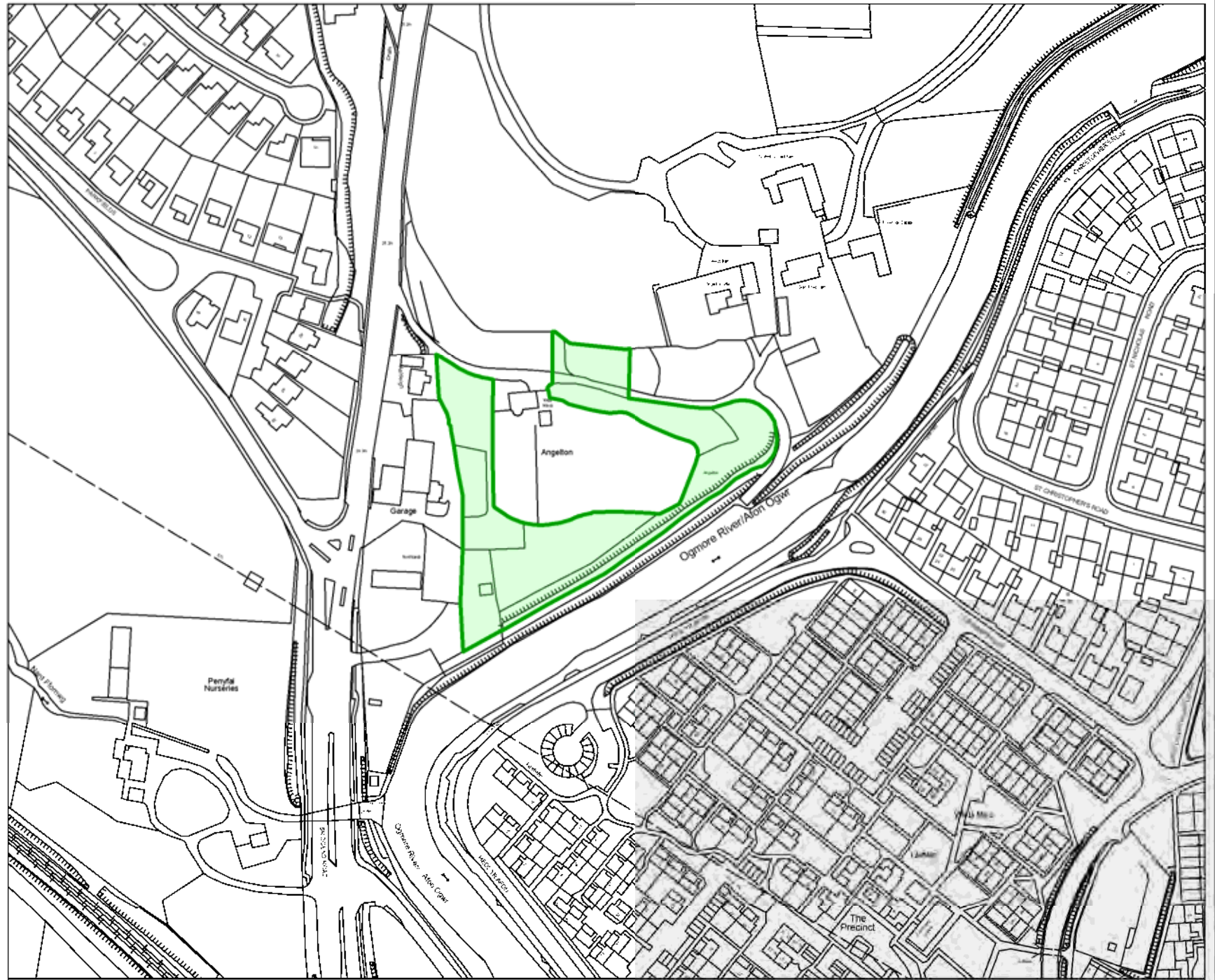
Woodland / scrub ground flora species (including tall herbs and scrub margins): *Fallopia japonica*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Urtica dioica*, *Aegopodium podagraria*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Trifolium pratense*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Pulicaria dysenterica*, *Potentilla anserina*, *Galium aparine*, *Taraxacum officinale*, *Heracleum sphondylium*, *Epilobium hirsutum*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Carex pendula*, *Equisetum arvense*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Brachythecium rutabulum*, *Kindbergia praelonga*.

Fauna observations: Bullfinch.

Additional species noted from desk study: Kingfisher (within 150m of boundary, 2007), unspecified bat (within 200m of boundary, 2004), Bullhead (within 350m of boundary, 1989), Brown/ Sea Trout, Eel (within 150m of boundary, 1995),



NH-13-N
Angelton Common



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: NH-14-N

SINC name: Aberkenfig West

Grid reference: SS 888 835

Area (hectares): 6.48

Survey date: 28/09/2011

Surveyor: Rebecca East

Summary description

The site lies to the north of the River Cynfig and a mature woodland corridor forms part of the site. The main interest in terms of woodland flora can be found in this area. The remainder of the site consists of scrub with a diverse ground flora indicating its transition from grassland fairly recently.

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Scrub

Secondary features

Bracken

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The river corridor is undisturbed and is likely to provide shelter for otters. The woodland may be suitable for dormice and bats as well as other small mammals, invertebrates and birds. Scrub margins may support common reptile species.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The site appears to be unmanaged at present and scrub has covered much of the grassland interest and the biodiversity interest is being lost. Scrub and bracken clearance is required as a priority followed by regular clearance or mowing or light to moderate grazing to maintain the grassland. The woodland area could benefit from some selective felling and the re-instatement of rotational coppicing. Himalayan balsam and Japanese knotweed were recorded in abundance, particularly in close proximity to the railway embankment, river and road. If left unmanaged these invasive species could further compromise the biodiversity value of the site. The removal of the invasive species by spraying or pulling is recommended.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of scrub and bracken to increase floristic diversity of grassland.
- Woodland management through selective felling and coppicing.
- Control of invasive species.

Additional information:

Access on to the site is very difficult since there are no official paths.

Landowner Bridgend County Borough Council

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub species

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, crack willow *Salix fragilis*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, hart's tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, opposite leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, dog violet *Viola riviana*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, wood false brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, red campion *Silene dioica*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, polypody *Polypodium vulgare*, ground ivy *Glechoma hederacea*, greater stitchwort *Stellaria holostea*, ground elder *Aegopodium podagraria*, gypsywort *Lycopus europaeus*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, black knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, golden rod *Solidago virgaurea*.

Faunal species

Tree creeper, nuthatch, great tit

Species from data search (0m)

Noctule, common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, great crested newt, slow worm, bluebell, palmate newt, red kite, grass snake, common frog, redwing, fieldfare, common lizard, knot grass, dusky brocade, eel, shrill carder bee, linnet, small square spot, small phoenix, reed bunting, kestrel, rustic, herring gull, black headed gull, dot moth, rosy minor, oblique carpet, house sparrow, hedge accentor, bullfinch, brown trout, buff ermine, starling, blood vein, song thrush, dark barred twin spot carpet, spectacle, swift, grey heron, siskin, goldfinch, raven, coronet, house martin, chiffchaff, small seraphim, common shrew, slender ground hopper, blackbird.



NH-14-N
Aberkenfig West



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council**SINC number: OG-1-M****SINC name: Cwm Dyfolog****Grid reference: SS976900****Area (hectares): 96.12****Survey date: 22 August 2011****Surveyor: Peter Sturgess****Summary description**

An extensive area of upland moorland, including heath, acid grassland, marshy grassland, areas of Bracken, rock outcrops, and small streams. The habitats form mosaics, often merging with one another. Rock outcrops and heath vegetation tend to occur on the steeper valley sides, and are dominated by Heather, Bell Heather, Bilberry and Wavy Hair-grass. The upper plateau area is dominated by acid grassland and heath, dominated by Mat-grass, Bilberry and Heath Rush. Locally there are wetter areas of marshy grassland/ bog habitat, with Purple Moor-grass, *Sphagnum* mosses, Cross-leaved Heath and Common Cotton-grass. Locally, the acid grassland occurs with patchy Bracken and anthills, and some parts support waxcap fungi. There are several small plantations in the western part of the site, and the southern part includes several fields of Bracken with mature broad-leaved trees.

Qualifying features

Extensive area of open countryside where semi-natural upland features predominate.

Heath/ acid grassland with >10% dwarf shrub heath cover and at least 7 indicator species.

Semi-improved acid grassland with significant numbers of anthills.

Marshy grassland/ flush with at least 12 indicator species.

Upland wet-heath with Cross-leaved Heath (locally grading to bog vegetation).

Rock outcrops with heath vegetation.

Secondary features

Species-poor semi-improved grassland. Dry stone walls. Streams. Bracken.

Small coniferous and broad-leaved plantations.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to support good populations of reptiles.

The grassland areas are likely to support additional species of waxcap fungi.

Potential to support locally uncommon vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens.

Potential to support locally uncommon upland birds.

Potential to support locally uncommon invertebrates.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The majority of the site is extensively grazed by sheep, horses and cattle. The site is in a good condition for nature conservation.

There are local problems with encroachment by scrub and Indian Balsam and Japanese Knotweed in the lowland habitats in the southern part of the site. Particularly beside the stream and near to the urban areas.

Several parts of the site appear to have been burned earlier during the year. The most extensive burning was of tussocky Purple Moor-grass near to the urban area.

Bracken is locally abundant and appears to be expanding. It may be beneficial to control it in some places, to limit its spread into areas of diverse grassland vegetation.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle, with fewer sheep.
- Local control of Bracken and scrub, where this is encroaching into grassland habitat.
- Control of invasive species.
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

The adjacent unenclosed upland habitats to the north also appear to qualify as SINC quality habitat, including acid grassland, heath and marshy grassland.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Heath/ acid grassland species (including rock-outcrops): *Calluna vulgaris*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Erica cinerea*, *Ulex gallii*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Polygala serpyllifolia*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Hieracium* sp., *Rumex acetosella*, *Galium saxatile*, *Nardus stricta*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Festuca ovina*, *Danthonia decumbens*, *Aira praecox*, *Luzula multiflora*, *Carex binervis*, *Carex pilulifera*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus squarrosus*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Pseudoscleropodium purum*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Racomitrium aciculare*, *Racomitrium aquaticum*, *Cladonia* spp., *Hygrocybe helobia*.

Semi-improved acid grassland species (including reclamation grassland near northern stream): *Agrostis capillaris*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Lolium perenne*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Festuca rubra*, *Aira caryophylla*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus tenuis*, *Carex flacca*, *Carex binervis*, *Luzula campestris*, *Trifolium repens*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Galium saxatile*, *Pilosella officinarum*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Plantago lanceolata*, *Senecio jacobaea*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Linum catharticum*, *Euphrasia* sp., *Carlina vulgaris*, *Hypochaeris radicata*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Vicia hirsuta*, *Trifolium pratense*, *Viola riviniana*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Polytrichum piliferum*, *Pseudoscleropodium purum*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Racomitrium ericoides*, *Pogonatum urnigerum*, *Climacium dendroides*, *Cladonia* sp., *Hygrocybe conica*.

Marshy grassland/ flush/ wet heath species: *Molinia caerulea*, *Nardus stricta*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Agrostis canina*, *Carex echinata*, *Carex demissa*, *Eriophorum angustifolium*, *Eriophorum vaginatum*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus squarrosus*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica tetralix*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Galium palustre*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Epilobium palustre*, *Viola palustris*, *Narthecium ossifragum*, *Galium saxatile*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Anagallis tenella*, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Wahlenbergia hederacea*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*, *Sphagnum* spp., *Polytrichum commune*, *Aulacomnium palustre*, *Philonotis fontana*, *Racomitrium aciculare*, *Dicranum scoparium*.

Tree and scrub species (streamside woodlands, small plantations and scattered scrub): *Quercus petraea*, *Quercus robur*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Salix cinerea*, *Picea sitchensis*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Alnus incana*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Sambucus nigra*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Larix* sp., *Cotoneaster cf bullatus*.

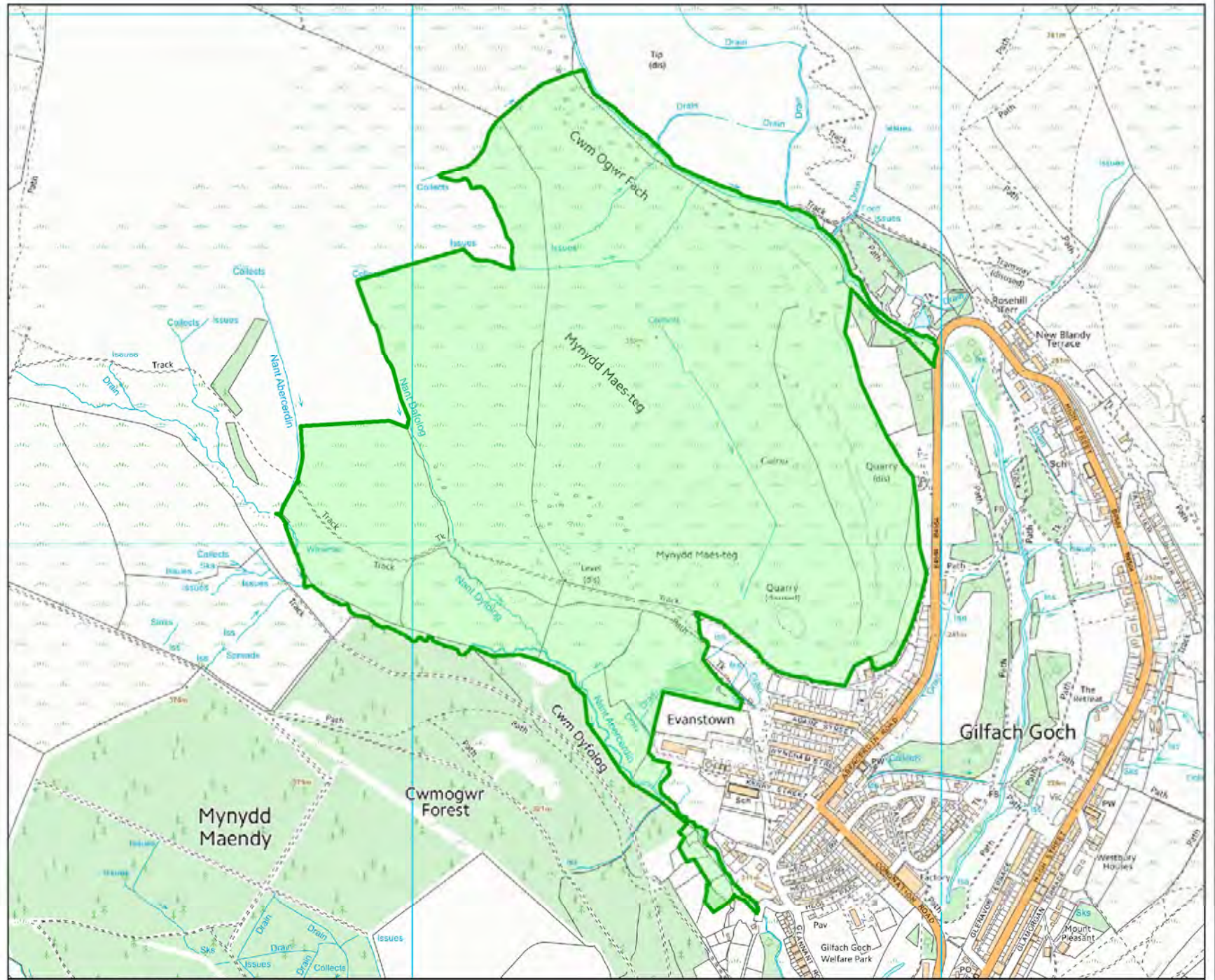
Tree and scrub ground flora species: *Oxalis acetosella*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Viola riviniana*, *Urtica dioica*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Geranium robertianum*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Viola palustris*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Senecio jacobaea*, *Juncus effusus*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Pseudoscleropodium purum*.

Fauna observations: Common Lizard, Slow Worm, Raven, Red Kite, Buzzard, Peregrine, Wheatear, Skylark, Meadow Pipit, Linnet, Small Heath Butterfly, Speckled Wood, Green-veined White, Ringlet, Meadow Brown, Common Blue Butterfly, Golden-ringed Dragonfly.

Additional species noted from desk study: Hen Harrier (2009), Merlin (2005), Dipper (2006), Whinchat (2006), Reed Bunting (2006), Grayling butterfly (2006), Wall Brown (2006).



OG-1-M
Cwm Dyfolog



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: OG-2-M

SINC name: Mynydd yr Aber

Grid reference: SS936906

Area (hectares): 188.10

Survey date: 15 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

An area of steep valley sides, woodland and upland moorland. The majority of the site supports sheep-grazed semi-improved pasture, which occurs with patchy bracken and ant-hills and locally supports good numbers of waxcap fungi. The northern part supports a mix of acid grassland and heath, dominated by Bilberry and Wavy Hair-grass. The western side supports an area of Sessile Oak woodland, which is classified as ancient woodland. The woodland includes several rock faces and vegetated spoil heaps from quarrying in the past. The south and east of the site support a mosaic of acid grassland with patchy heath, marshy grassland and flushes, and scattered Gorse scrub. Some of the flushes show a strong element of base-enrichment from former coal workings further up the slope. A disused railway line follows the line of a small stream to an area of disused coal workings which have become vegetated by acid grassland and Bracken.

Qualifying features

Extensive area of open countryside where semi-natural upland features predominate.

Ancient semi-natural woodland with an upland oak woodland component.

Heath/ acid grassland with >10% dwarf shrub heath cover and at least 7 indicator species.

Semi-improved acid grassland with significant numbers of anthills.

Marshy grassland/ flush with at least 12 indicator species.

Secondary features

Bracken. Rock outcrops. Stone walls. Stream. Scrub. Disused railway.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to support good populations of reptiles.

The grassland areas are likely to support additional species of waxcap fungi.

Potential to provide good roosting and foraging habitats for bats.

Potential to support locally uncommon vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens.

Potential to support locally uncommon upland birds.

Potential to support locally uncommon invertebrates (e.g. Violet-feeding Fritillary butterflies).

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The majority of the site is extensively grazed by sheep. It is generally in a good condition for nature conservation.

The woodland is grazed by sheep and this means that there is very little ground flora or regeneration of new trees. It may be beneficial to temporarily exclude grazing from some parts of the woodland to allow its structural diversity to increase (perhaps on a trial basis to begin).

Bracken and Gorse scrub are locally abundant and appear to be expanding. It may be beneficial to control these in some places, to limit their spread into areas of grassland with diverse vegetation or waxcap communities.

Evidence of off-road motorcycling is widespread within the site. This has the potential to become damaging if it increases, but does not appear to be having a significant impact on nature conservation at present.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle, with fewer sheep.
- Local Bracken and Gorse control to maintain grassland habitat.
- Consider locally excluding livestock from woodland to encourage regeneration and provide areas of dense undergrowth to give cover for nesting birds and small mammals.
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

The SINC boundary is drawn rather arbitrarily for this site. The adjacent unenclosed upland habitats to the north and east also support SINC quality habitat, including acid grassland, heath and marshy grassland.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Heath/ acid grassland/ semi-improved acid grassland species (combined because they merge into each other so frequently at this site): *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica cinerea*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Galium saxatile*, *Polygala serpyllifolia*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Hieracium* sp., *Pilosella officinarum*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Veronica officinalis*, *Oxalis acetosella*, *Viola riviniana*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Hypericum pulchrum*, *Jasione montana*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Festuca ovina*, *Nardus stricta*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Danthonia decumbens*, *Aira caryophyllea*, *Festuca rubra*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Luzula multiflora*, *Carex binervis*, *Carex pilulifera*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus squarrosus*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Pseudoscleropodium purum*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Cladonia* spp., *Hygrocybe chlorophana*, *H.pratensis*, *H.conica*, *H.psittacina*, *H.reidii*.

Marshy grassland/ flush species: *Molinia caerulea*, *Nardus stricta*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Carex echinata*, *Carex demissa*, *Carex flacca*, *Eriophorum angustifolium*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Erica tetralix*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Galium palustre*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Wahlenbergia hederacea*, *Viola palustris*, *Viola riviniana*, *Anagallis tenella*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Lemna minor*, *Callitriche* sp., *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Aulacomnium palustre*, *Sphagnum* spp., *Polytrichum commune*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*, *Philonotis fontana*, *Cratoneuron filicinum*, *Plagiomnium undulatum*, *Bryum pseudotriquetrum*.

Tree and scrub species (including oak woodland and streamside scrub): *Quercus petraea*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Betula pubescens*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Salix cinerea*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Picea sitchensis*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Ilex aquifolium*.

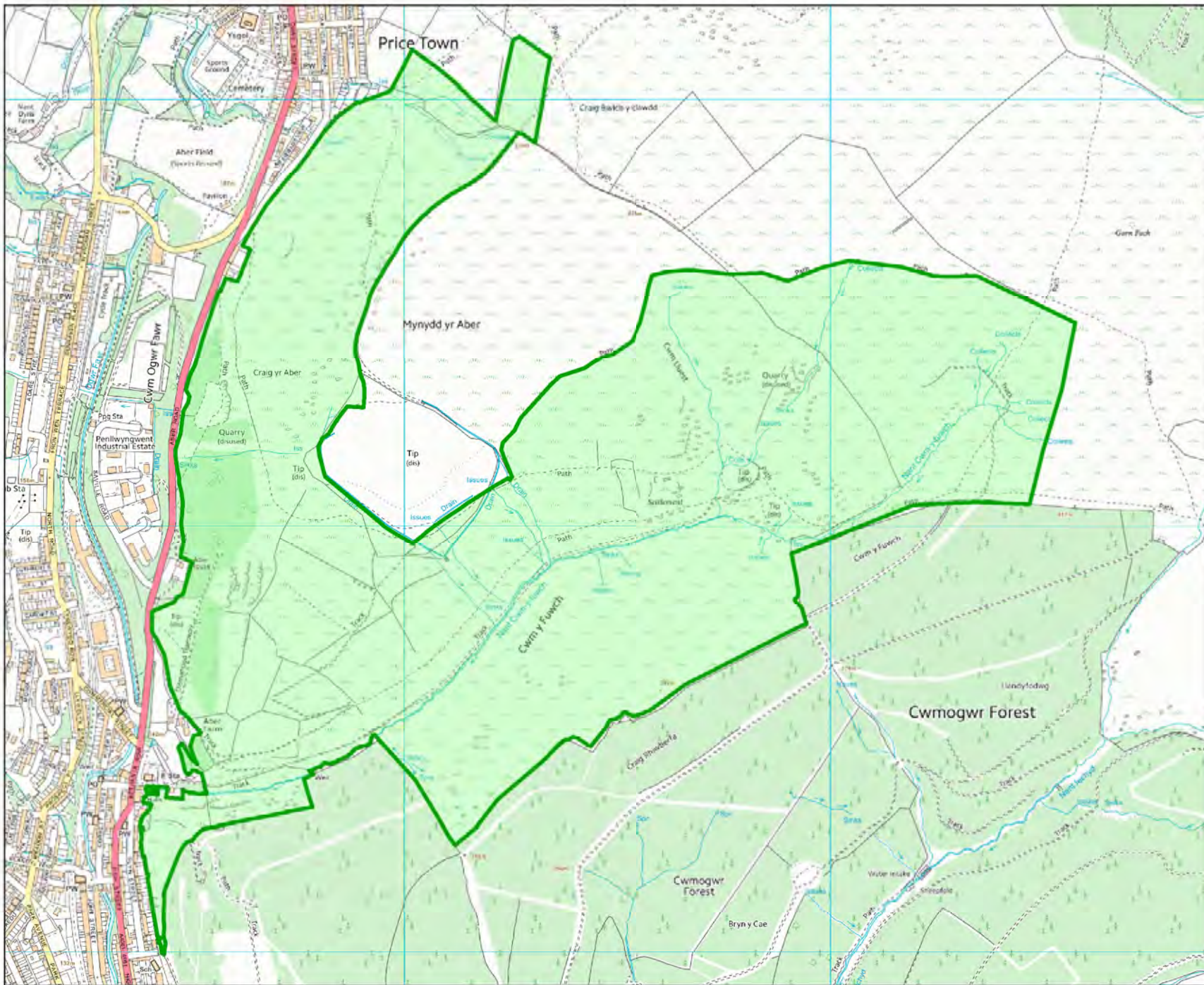
Tree and scrub ground flora species: *Oxalis acetosella*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Urtica dioica*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Juncus effusus*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Rhytidiadelphus loreus*, *Pseudoscleropodium purum*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Plagiothecium undulatum*, *Diplophyllum albicans*, *Scapania nemorea*.

Fauna observations: Raven, Buzzard, Meadow Pipit, Long-tailed Tit, Pied Wagtail, Bullfinch, Nuthatch.

Additional species noted from desk study: Common Pipistrelle (within 150m of boundary, 2004), Soprano Pipistrelle (within 300m of boundary, 2005), Wood Warbler (within 100m of boundary, 2008), Red Kite (within 100m of boundary, 2009), Grayling and Small Heath butterflies (within 100m of boundary, 1998).



**OG-2-M
Mynydd yr Aber**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: OG-3-M

SINC name: Cwm Dimbath

Grid reference: SS949887

Area (hectares): 76.78

Survey date: 23 August 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This linear site follows the line of the Nant Lechyd stream north to Daren y Dimbath. Most of the site supports broadleaved woodland, classified as semi-natural ancient woodland. The northern part of the woodland is dominated by Sessile Oak. It has a sparse upland Oakwood ground flora with Bilberry, Wood Sorrel, and a high proportion of mosses, particularly *Rhytidiadelphus loreus* and *Dicranum majus*. One damp flushy area was found to support the locally uncommon moss *Leucobryum glaucum*. The southern wooded area is wetter and has a more diverse canopy, with Oak, Ash, Rowan and Alder, with an understorey including Hazel and Alder Buckthorn. The ground flora includes Remote Sedge, Enchanter's Nightshade, Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage, Angelica and *Sphagnum* mosses. The locally uncommon liverwort *Trichocolea tomentella* is locally frequent near a small tributary stream at SS9550087557. The north-eastern side of the site supports a mosaic of acid grassland, heath, Bracken and marshy grassland.

Qualifying features

Ancient semi-natural woodland with an upland oak woodland component.

Ancient semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Extensive area of open countryside where semi-natural upland features predominate.

Heath/ acid grassland with >10% dwarf shrub heath cover and at least 7 indicator species.

Stream with unpolluted water, relatively unmodified banks and a native fish population.

Secondary features

Bracken. Marshy grassland. Rock outcrops. Stone walls. Streams. Scrub. Pond.

Locally uncommon mosses and liverworts (*Trichocolea tomentella* and *Leucobryum glaucum*)

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good roosting and foraging habitats for bats.

The heath and grassland areas are likely to support good populations of reptiles.

Potential to support locally uncommon vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens.

Potential to support locally uncommon upland and woodland birds.

Potential to support Dormouse and Otter.

Potential to support locally uncommon invertebrates.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The site is generally in a good condition for nature conservation. The majority of the northern part of the site is extensively grazed by sheep and the southern part by cattle. The northern part of the woodland has been subject to recent disturbance by construction of several new vehicle tracks up to the quarry near the top of the eastern slope.

The stream corridor is locally dominated by Indian Balsam and Japanese Knotweed. The Indian Balsam appears to be spreading into the woodland higher up the slopes beside the new vehicle tracks. It would be beneficial to control the invasive species to prevent their continued spread.

Bracken is locally abundant and expanding in the north-east grassland area. It would be beneficial to control this to prevent further loss of more valuable grassland and heath vegetation.

There appears to be occasional tipping of garden and domestic refuse by the road.

Recommendations for future management:

- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland or heath habitats.
- Manage grassland habitats by light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle rather than sheep.
- Control invasive species, especially beside river.
- Local Bracken control to maintain grassland habitat.
- Local woodland management by thinning, as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Occasional cutting back of trees and scrub to maintain grassland glades in valley floor.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography. Further survey during the spring would be beneficial at this site, particularly to check woodland ground flora and breeding birds.

Existing data for this site includes several rare species, including Killarney Fern, Tunbridge Filmy Fern, Hay-scented Buckler-fern and High Brown Fritillary butterfly, which if still present would all be additional qualifying features for the SINC designation.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland tree and shrub species: *Quercus petraea*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Betula pubescens*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Quercus robur*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Corylus avellana*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Salix cinerea*, *Frangula alnus*.

Woodland ground flora species: *Oxalis acetosella*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Urtica dioica*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Galium saxatile*, *Solidago virgaurea*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Oenanthe crocata*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Veronica montana*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Stellaria holostea*, *Potentilla sterilis*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Festuca gigantea*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Holcus mollis*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus tenuis*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Rhytidiadelphus loreus*, *Dicranum majus*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Leucobryum glaucum*, *Sphagnum* spp., *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Mnium hornum*, *Plagiomnium undulatum*, *Rhizomnium punctatum*, *Hookeria lucens*, *Hyocomium armoricum*, *Chiloscyphus polyanthos*, *Diplophyllum albicans*, *Trichocolea tomentella*, *Scapania nemorea*.

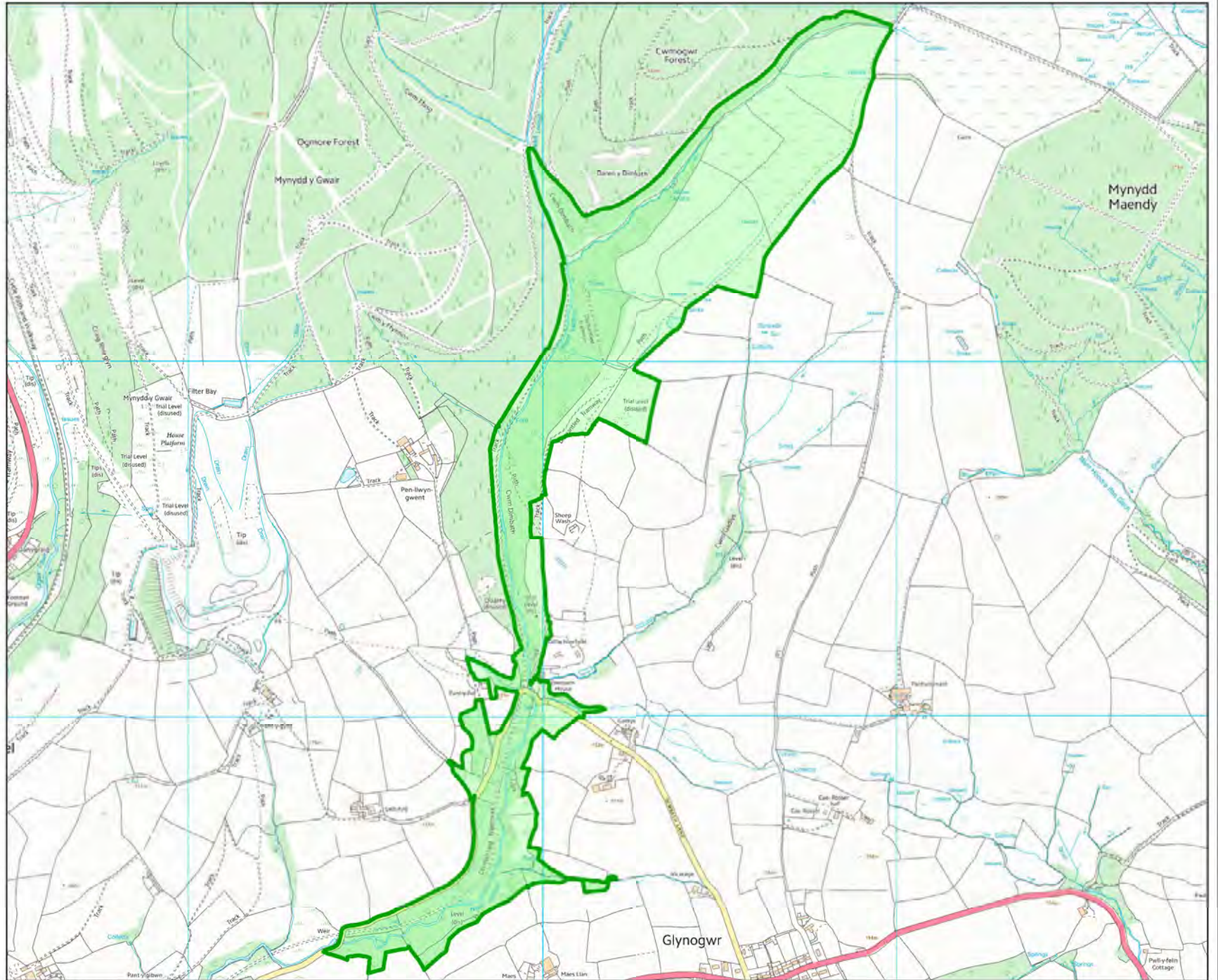
Heath/ acid grassland species (north-eastern part of the site): *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica cinerea*, *Ulex gallii*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Galium saxatile*, *Pilosella officinarum*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Veronica officinalis*, *Polygala serpyllifolia*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Festuca ovina*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Nardus stricta*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Luzula multiflora*, *Carex binervis*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus squarrosus*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*.

Fauna observations: Badger (sett), Common Lizard, Buzzard, Grey Wagtail, Mistle Thrush, Coal Tit, Jay, Grey Squirrel.

Additional species noted from desk study: Unidentified bat (2005), Bullhead, Salmon, Eel, Brown/ Sea Trout (1997 records), Killarney Fern, Tunbridge Filmy-fern, Hay-scented Buckler-fern (1998 records), Tree Pipit (2009), High Brown Fritillary (1995), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (2007), Wood Warbler (2009), Spotted Flycatcher (2010), Pied Flycatcher (2001), Dipper (2010).



OG-3-M
Cwm Dimbath



Map generated by: AQ
 Date: 15/08/2013

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: OG-4-M

SINC name: Bryn y Wrach

Grid reference: SS920869

Area (hectares): 41.82

Survey date: 22 August 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

The majority of this site lies within an area of common land which supports a mosaic of Bracken, acid grassland, semi-improved acid grassland and marshy grassland. The majority of the grassland is semi-improved acid grassland and this is heavily grazed by sheep and cattle. The most frequent species include Common Bent, Sweet Vernal-grass, Red Fescue and Crested Dog's-tail. Ant-hills are locally prominent and several species of grassland fungi are present. A few damper areas support marshy grassland, mostly dominated by Purple Moor-grass and Soft Rush, with a moderate diversity of associated species including Devil's-bit Scabious, Cross-leaved Heath and Bog Asphodel. There are two small rushy ponds near the south-eastern boundary.

Qualifying features

Semi-improved acid grassland with at least 7 indicator species and significant numbers of anthills.
Marshy grassland with at least 12 indicator species.

Secondary features

Bracken. Stone walls. Scrub. Ponds.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to support good populations of reptiles.
Likely to support additional species of grassland fungi.
The ponds have potential to provide breeding sites for amphibians.
Potential to support locally uncommon breeding birds.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The majority of the site is grazed by sheep and horses, and the western area of marshy grassland is grazed by cattle. The site is generally in a reasonable condition for nature conservation, although Bracken appears to be becoming increasingly dominant.

Indian Balsam is locally frequent beside the north-eastern margin and adjacent scrub. It would be beneficial to control this to prevent it from spreading further into the site.

There is evidence of litter and fly-tipping beside the road.

There appears to be occasional disturbance of the area by off-road vehicles and motorcycles.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle, with fewer sheep.
- Remove tipped material and litter near roads, and try to prevent further tipping.
- Local Bracken control to maintain grassland habitats.
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.
- Control of Indian Balsam.
- Creation of at least one new pond.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

The damp semi-improved grassland to the north-east of the site could potentially also qualify as a SINC, but at the time of the survey it was too heavily grazed to be certain. Further survey earlier in the year is recommended.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Tree and shrub species: *Crataegus monogyna*, *Corylus avellana*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Salix cinerea*.

Acid / semi-improved acid grassland species: *Agrostis capillaris*, *Festuca ovina*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Festuca rubra*, *Lolium perenne*, *Nardus stricta*, *Danthonia decumbens*, *Aira praecox*, *Luzula campestris*, *Luzula multiflora*, *Carex binervis*, *Carex flacca*, *Juncus effusus*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Galium saxatile*, *Polygala serpyllifolia*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Cerastium fontanum*, *Trifolium repens*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Viola riviniana*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Veronica officinalis*, *Ulex gallii*, *Linum catharticum*, *Prunella vulgaris*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Hygrocybe chlorophana*, *H.conica*, *H.psittacina*, *H.flavipes*, *H.reidii*, *Entoloma sp.*

Marshy grassland species: *Molinia caerulea*, *Nardus stricta*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Agrostis canina*, *Carex echinata*, *Carex demissa*, *Carex flacca*, *Carex binervis*, *Carex panicea*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Juncus squarrosus*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus articulatus*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Galium palustre*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica tetralix*, *Narthecium ossifragum*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Viola palustris*, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Oreopteris limbosperma*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Sphagnum spp.*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*.

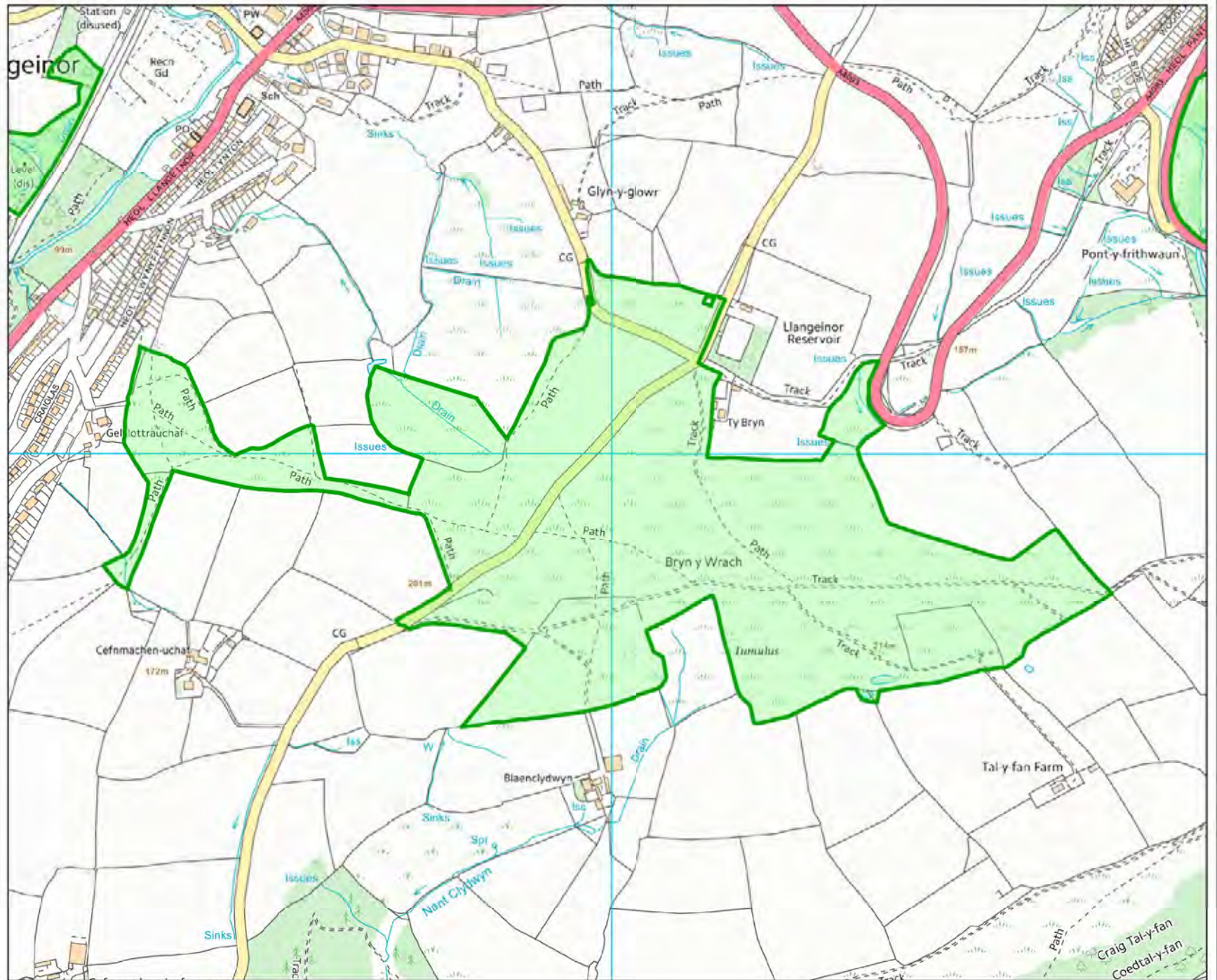
Fauna observations: Common Lizard, Meadow Pipit, Linnet, Skylark.

Additional species noted from desk study: Whinchat (1990), Lapwing (1990), Small Heath butterfly (1990), Red Kite (within 100m of boundary, 2009).



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

OG-4-N
Bryn y Wrach



Map generated by: AQ
 Date: 15/08/2013

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Scale 1:8,000 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: OG-5-M

SINC name: Glynogwr Woods

Grid reference: SS960869

Area (hectares): 54.54

Survey date: 22 August 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This site comprises a mosaic of habitats aligned along the Ogwr Fach valley. The Ogwr Fach river and a disused railway line provide almost continuous sheltered wooded habitat along most of the valley floor. The river is mostly fringed by Alders and Indian Balsam, and locally by wet woodland with Oak and Grey Willow. The ground flora includes a high proportion of Creeping Buttercup, Remote Sedge and Indian Balsam. Several parts of the steeper valley sides support drier broadleaved woodland, including semi-natural ancient woodland. The drier woodland has a high proportion of Sessile Oak and is fringed by Bracken and semi-improved grassland. The eastern part of the disused railway line is mostly bordered by wet woodland and scrub. The western part has been made into a cycle path. Several more open sections of the railway support flower-rich grassland, locally including Heather, Devil's-bit Scabious and Hawkweed Ox-tongue. Patches of marshy grassland are present. These are mostly dominated by tussocky Purple Moor-grass and rushes. A strip of grassland south of the river includes a mosaic of marshy grassland, scrub, Bracken and semi-improved grassland with locally frequent ant-hills and several grassland fungi.

Qualifying features

Ancient semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Marshy grassland with at least 12 indicator species.

River with unpolluted water, relatively unmodified banks and a native fish population.

Secondary features

Semi-improved acid grassland with ant-hills and grassland fungi (only small patches so not treated as a qualifying feature).

Bracken. Stone walls/ old hedgebanks. Streams. Scrub.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good roosting and foraging habitats for bats.

Potential to support Dormouse and Otter.

The grassland and Bracken areas are likely to support good populations of reptiles.

Potential to support locally uncommon woodland birds, and Sand Martins beside the river (possible nest holes observed in river cliffs).

Likely to support additional species of grassland fungi.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The site is generally in a reasonable condition for nature conservation. The land to the north of the river is mostly grazed by horses, while the land to the south is mostly grazed by sheep. The woodland areas appear to be only lightly grazed. No evidence was seen to indicate that there is any active management of the woodland or Bracken.

The river corridor and much of the adjoining wet woodland and grassland supports abundant Indian Balsam and Japanese Knotweed. It would be beneficial to control these to prevent their continued spread. Bracken control is also recommended as it is locally dominant over a large part of the valley sides, and appears to be gradually reducing the area of the more diverse grassland habitat.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle, without sheep.
- Control of invasive species.
- Local Bracken control to maintain grassland habitat.
- Local cutting back of scrub, where this is encroaching into grassland habitat.

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography. Further survey during the spring would be beneficial at this site, particularly to check woodland ground flora and breeding birds.

The south-western boundary of this SINC site adjoins a large area of open acid grassland and heath (SS946867), which also appears to be of SINC quality. The horse-grazed fields south-east of Glyn Ogwr Church (SS957871) were not accessed but they support semi-improved neutral grassland with abundant Common Knapweed and Bird's-foot Trefoil. They may also be worthy of further investigation as a possible SINC.

The lane south from Glynogwr (SS956871) which is shown on the Ordnance Survey map as a byway open to all traffic has 'keep out' notices at each end.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub tree species: *Quercus petraea*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Quercus robur*, *Corylus avellana*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Betula pubescens*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Salix cinerea*, *Populus* sp., *Ulex europaeus*, *Malus cf sylvestris*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Rosa canina*, *Hedera helix*, *Salix aurita*.

Woodland and scrub ground flora species: *Oxalis acetosella*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Urtica dioica*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Solidago virgaurea*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Stellaria holostea*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Oenanthe crocata*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Potentilla sterilis*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Viola riviniana*, *Galium saxatile*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Fragaria vesca*, *Veronica chamaedrys*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Epilobium palustre*, *Senecio aquaticus*, *Rubus idaeus*, *Geum urbanum*, *Hypericum pulchrum*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Holcus mollis*, *Glyceria maxima*, *Juncus effusus*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Equisetum sylvaticum*, *Rhytidadelphus squarrosus*, *Mnium hornum*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Eurhynchium striatum*, *Sphagnum* spp., *Plagiomnium undulatum*, *Rhizomnium punctatum*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Thuidium tamariscinum*, *Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans*.

Semi-improved grassland / Bracken areas species: *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Galium saxatile*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Galium palustre*, *Pilosella officinarum*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Cardamine pratensis*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Centaurea nigra*, *Hypochaeris radicata*, *Euphrasia* sp., *Ranunculus omiophyllus*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Viola riviniana*, *Wahlenbergia hederacea*, *Pilosella officinarum*, *Aira praecox*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Festuca rubra*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Lolium perenne*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Luzula campestris*, *Carex ovalis*, *Juncus effusus*, *Rhytidadelphus squarrosus*, *Calliargonella cuspidata*, *Campylopus introflexus*, *Hygrocybe flavipes*, *Hygrocybe conica*, *Entoloma* spp.. (Additional species in grassy patches/ disturbed ground beside disused railway: *Succisa pratensis*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Nardus stricta*, *Picris hieracioides*, *Potentilla reptans*, *Daucus carota*, *Pastinaca sativa*, *Melilotus altissimus*).

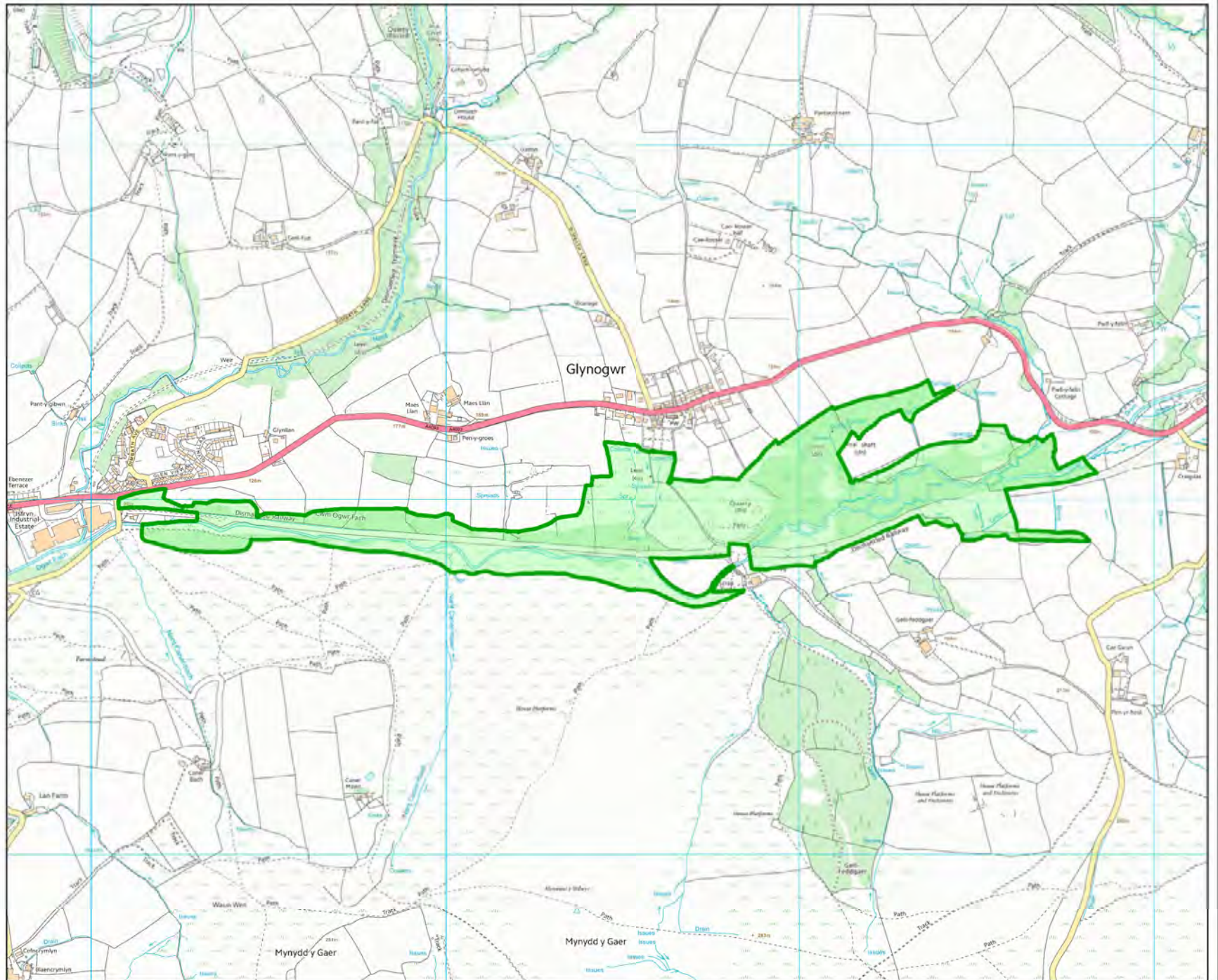
Marshy grassland species: *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Carex paniculata*, *Carex laevigata*, *Carex ovalis*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus effusus*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Galium palustre*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Succisa pratensis*, *Erica tetralix*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Viola palustris*, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Epilobium palustre*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Valeriana officinalis*, *Wahlenbergia hederacea*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Hypericum tetrapterum*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Oreopteris limbosperma*, *Sphagnum* spp., *Polytrichum commune*, *Calliargonella cuspidata*.

Fauna observations: Badger (footprints), Otter (spraint), Common Lizard, Bullfinch, Speckled Wood butterfly, Common Blue butterfly, Meadow Brown butterfly, Buzzard, Sand Martin.

Additional species noted from desk study: Bullhead, Salmon, Eel, Brown/ Sea Trout (1997 records), High Brown Fritillary (1996), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (2001), Cranberry (1969).



OG-5-M
Glynogwr Woods



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: OG-6-M

SINC name: Cwm Cyffog

Grid reference: SS927903

Area (hectares): 20.42

Survey date: 30 August 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This site mostly comprises a mix of marshy grassland, semi-improved acid grassland and Bracken on the side of the Nant Cwmclyffog valley. There are also several areas of heath and rock-outcrop which are associated with former quarrying. The marshy grassland habitat is dominated by tussocky Purple Moor-grass and rushes, and supports a range of wetland plants including *Sphagnum* mosses, Bog Asphodel, Marsh Pennywort and Lesser Skullcap. The drier areas of grassland support a short-grazed turf with typical semi-improved acid grassland species, mostly within a mosaic with Bracken. The grassland in the northern part of the site also supports frequent ant-hills. Several areas of rock exposure and disused quarry tips support acid grassland and heath, with dominant species including Heather, Mat Grass and Wavy Hair-grass. The site has streams along the southern and eastern boundaries.

Qualifying features

Marshy grassland with at least 12 indicator species.

Rock-exposures with heath vegetation.

Semi-improved acid grassland with at least 7 indicator species and local anthills.

Secondary features

Bracken. Scrub. Streams.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to support good populations of reptiles.

The semi-improved grassland areas are likely to support grassland fungi.

Potential to support locally uncommon invertebrates and breeding birds.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The majority of the site is grazed by cattle. It is generally in a reasonable condition for nature conservation, although would probably benefit from a slight reduction in grazing pressure and local control of the Bracken.

There has been agricultural improvement in most of the areas of dry and level ground, but it appears to have had little effect on the steeper slopes or wettest areas. There appear to be recently dug drains in some of the wet areas, and this is likely to lead to further deterioration of the site's value for wildlife as the soil becomes drier.

Indian Balsam is locally frequent beside the eastern margin, and locally extends into the adjacent Bracken and scrub. It would be beneficial to control this to prevent it from spreading further into the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continue management by grazing, ideally light grazing by horses or cattle.
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.
- Control of Indian Balsam.
- Local Bracken control to maintain grassland habitat.
- Creation of at least one pond.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

A substantial area has been removed from the SINC because of agricultural improvement since it was first designated. There are signs of improvement within the remaining area, but it still retains enough value for wildlife to meet the SINC selection criteria. Several patches within the SINC support improved grassland, but they have been retained within the designated area as they form a relatively small proportion of the total area.

The adjoining acid grassland and marshy grassland to the north and south of this site also appears to be of suitable quality to qualify for SINC status.

The route of the public footpath that crosses the small stream at SS928906 appears to have been blocked or diverted.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Tree and shrub species: *Crataegus monogyna*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Salix cinerea*, *Sorbus aucuparia*.

Acid grassland/ heath/ semi-improved acid grassland species (combined because they form a mosaic at this site): *Agrostis capillaris*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Festuca ovina*, *Festuca rubra*, *Lolium perenne*, *Nardus stricta*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Aira praecox*, *Luzula campestris*, *Carex binervis*, *Juncus effusus*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Galium saxatile*, *Polygala serpyllifolia*, *Trifolium repens*, *Cerastium fontanum*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica cinerea*, *Leontodon autumnalis*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*.

Marshy grassland species: *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Agrostis canina*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Carex echinata*, *Carex demissa*, *Carex panicea*, *Isolepis setacea*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Galium palustre*, *Narthecium ossifragum*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Viola palustris*, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Ranunculus omiophyllus*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Epilobium palustre*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Epilobium parviflorum*, *Potamogeton polygonifolius*, *Erica tetralix*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Sphagnum spp.*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Aulacomnium palustre*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*.

Fauna observations: Brown Hare, Raven, Meadow Pipit.

Additional species noted from desk study: Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary butterfly (2009), Grayling butterfly (within 100m of boundary, 1990), Small Heath butterfly (within 100m of boundary, 1996).



OG-6-M
Cwm Cyffog



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 15/08/2013

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: OG-7-M

SINC name: Rhiw Fer

Grid reference: SS929920

Area (hectares): 24.92

Survey date: 15 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This site follows the Nant Dyri stream from its source in an area of upland marshy grassland and down through a steep wooded valley. The stream flows in a steep, rocky channel with numerous water-falls. It is bordered by steep banks supporting Sessile Oak, Ash, Holly and Hazel. The woodland ground flora includes Bracken, Bluebell, Wood Sorrel, Wood Sage and Creeping Soft-grass. A few areas at the tops of the valley sides support a mix of self-sown Birch and Oak trees with younger plantation trees, including Wild Cherry and Sweet Chestnut. The fields adjacent to the wooded valley support a mix of semi-improved acid grassland and marshy grassland, with patchy Bracken. The semi-improved grassland includes waxcap fungi and local ant-hills. The marshy grassland is dominated by Purple Moor-grass and Sharp-flowered Rush with a good diversity of wetland plants including Bog Asphodel, Star Sedge, Marsh Violet and Sphagnum mosses.

Qualifying features

Marshy grassland with at least 12 indicator species.

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland with an upland Oak woodland component.

Semi-improved acid grassland with at least 7 indicator species, waxcap fungi and local anthills.

Secondary features

Bracken. Scrub. Streams.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good roosting and foraging habitats for bats.

Potential to support Dormouse.

The tussocky grassland areas are likely to support reptiles.

Potential to support locally uncommon vascular plants, mosses and lichens.

The semi-improved grassland areas are likely to support additional species of grassland fungi.

Potential to support locally uncommon invertebrates and breeding birds.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The grassland areas are grazed by sheep, and some fields are also managed by cutting. The woodland and stream appear to be left undisturbed, and there is no sign of any recent woodland management. The area seems to be in a good condition for nature conservation, although would probably benefit from local Bracken control.

Indian Balsam and Japanese Knotweed are present in a few areas near to tracks, especially east of the yard at SS930919. It would be beneficial to control these to prevent any further spread through the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Control of invasive species.
- Local Bracken control to maintain grassland habitat.
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.
- Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle rather than sheep.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

The stream banks near to the houses at the eastern boundary (SS932917) have been extensively modified by garden planting and therefore removed from the SINC designated area. The stream itself would still be expected to be of local value for wildlife.

The unenclosed upland area adjoining the western boundary supports a mosaic of acid grassland, heath, marshy grassland and rock outcrops, and is of suitable quality to qualify as a SINC.

The route of the public footpath that crosses the southern part of the site appears to be blocked at SS93109173.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub canopy species: *Quercus petraea*, *Betula pubescens*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Corylus avellana*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Salix cinerea*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Hedera helix*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Castanea sativa*, *Prunus avium*.

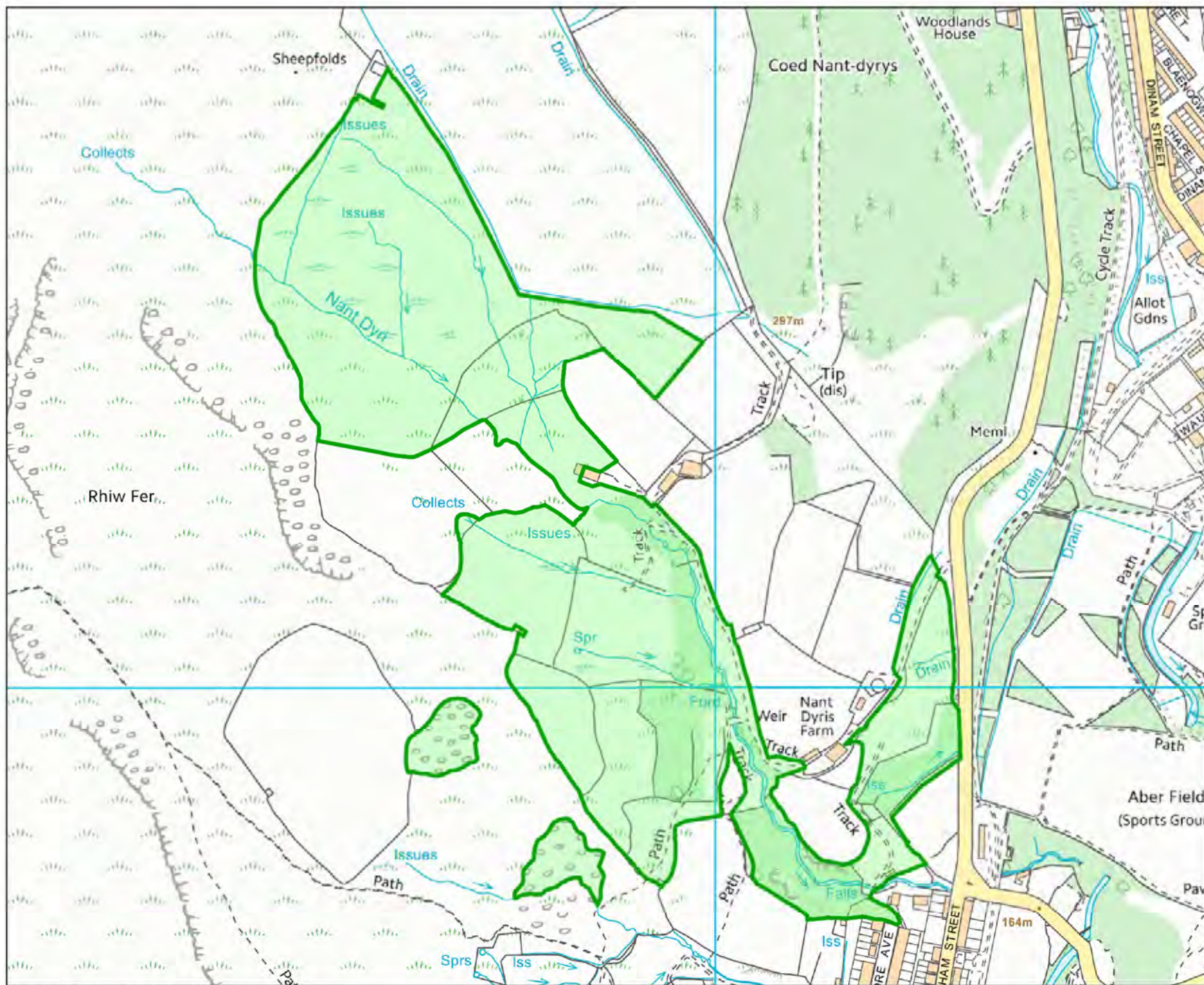
Woodland ground flora species: *Oxalis acetosella*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Urtica dioica*, *Stellaria holostea*, *Anemone nemorosa*, *Teucrium scorodonia*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Viola palustris*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Oenanthe crocata*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Viola riviniana*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Solidago virgaurea*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Holcus mollis*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Juncus effusus*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Polystichum setiferum*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Mnium hornum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Eurhynchium striatum*, *Sphagnum spp.*, *Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans*, *Plagiomnium undulatum*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Lophocolea bidentata*.

Acid grassland/ semi-improved acid grassland species: *Agrostis capillaris*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Festuca rubra*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Nardus stricta*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Festuca ovina*, *Luzula campestris*, *Juncus effusus*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Trifolium repens*, *Cerastium fontanum*, *Galium saxatile*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Centaurea nigra*, *Succisa pratensis*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Pseudoscleropodium purum*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Hygrocybe chlorophana*, *Hygrocybe psittacina*.

Marshy grassland species: *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Carex echinata*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Galium palustre*, *Narthecium ossifragum*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Viola palustris*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Succisa pratensis*, *Valeriana officinalis*, *Chamerion angustifolium*, *Pedicularis sylvatica*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Erica tetralix*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Oreopteris limbosperma*, *Sphagnum spp.*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Aulacomnium palustre*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*.

Fauna observations: Badger (latrine), Nuthatch, Tawny Owl, Buzzard, Jay, Meadow Pipit, Speckled Wood butterfly, Green-veined White Butterfly.

Additional species noted from desk study: Hen Harrier (2001), Golden Plover (2005), Wood Warbler (within 100m of boundary, 1995), Soprano Pipistrelle (within 300m, 2005), Salmon, Bullhead, Eel, Brown/Sea Trout (within 200m, 1997).



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: OG-8-N

SINC name: Pant-yr-Awel

Grid reference: SS934880

Area (hectares): 19.45

Survey date: 30 August 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This linear site follows the course of the Ogwr Fawr river and a disused railway track which is now used as a cycle-path. The majority of the site is shaded by dense woodland. Most has a canopy of Ash, Alder and Pedunculate Oak, but Sessile Oak is present in a few places. A few open areas beside the river support species-poor semi-improved grassland but they are mostly dominated by Japanese Knotweed and Indian Balsam. The woodland ground flora immediately beside the railway contains a relatively low number of old woodland indicator species, but a few adjacent older woodland areas have a more diverse flora that includes Bluebell, Wood Sorrel and Wood Sage. Common species in the wooded areas closest to the river include Remote Sedge, Angelica, Nettle, Creeping Buttercup and Indian Balsam. A field of marshy grassland on the east side of the river is dominated by Purple Moor-grass and Soft Rush and a range of other wetland plants including *Sphagnum* mosses, Cross-leaved Heath, Bog Asphodel, Star Sedge, Marsh Violet and Devil's-bit Scabious.

Qualifying features

Marshy grassland with at least 12 indicator species.

River with unpolluted water, relatively unmodified banks and a native fish population.

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland with assemblage of indicator species.

Secondary features

Disused railway line with secondary woodland on both sides, forming a continuous linear habitat.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good roosting and foraging habitats for bats.

Potential to support Dormouse and Otter.

The marshy grassland has potential to support reptiles.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodland and river generally appear to be left undisturbed, and there is no sign of any recent woodland management. The marshy grassland and the woodland immediately adjacent to it are grazed by cattle.

The woodland and riverbanks are in a reasonable condition for wildlife, but apparently declining as they are increasingly dominated by Japanese Knotweed and Indian Balsam. However, the linear habitats formed by the river and cycleway are likely to remain valuable habitats for bats and any animals using the river, despite the relatively low diversity of the adjacent woodland flora.

Control of Indian Balsam and Japanese Knotweed is recommended, to prevent them from continuing to spread to the adjacent habitats. (However, effective control would only be possible if it can remove these species from the riverbanks upstream of the site).

There has been a considerable amount of refuse tipping along the disused railway in the past. Most of the refuse is now covered by vegetation and the problem appears to have reduced in recent years.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Control of invasive species.
- Litter-picking and removal of tipped material
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitat.
- Continue with light grazing in grassland, ideally by horses or cattle, not sheep.
- Consider provision of artificial Otter holt in a quiet part of the river-bank.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

Much of the woodland is secondary woodland that would not normally be considered of SINC quality. However, in this case it provides valuable continuity within a linear habitat mosaic, and its relationship with the river also raises its likely value for wildlife. The SINC could potentially be extended further along the route of the disused railway or river at future review.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy species: *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Salix cinerea*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Quercus petraea*, *Betula pubescens*, *Corylus avellana*, *Quercus robur*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Hedera helix*, *Salix caprea*, *Malus cf sylvestris*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Lonicera periclymenum*.

Woodland ground flora species: *Ranunculus repens*, *Urtica dioica*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Oenanthe crocata*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Galium palustre*, *Veronica chamaedrys*, *Solidago virgaurea*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Teucrium scorodonia*, *Galium aparine*, *Viola riviniana*, *Valeriana officinalis*, *Geranium robertianum*, *Oxalis acetosella*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Eupatorium cannabinum*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Holcus mollis*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Arrhenatherum elatius*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Polystichum setiferum*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Fissidens taxifolius*, *Mnium hornum*, *Eurhynchium striatum*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Plagiomnium undulatum*, *Pellia sp.*

In river: *Fontinalis antipyretica*, *Hygroamblystegium fluviatile*.

Marshy grassland species: *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Festuca ovina*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Carex flacca*, *Carex binervis*, *Carex demissa*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus articulatus*, *Galium palustre*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Ulex gallii*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Epilobium palustre*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Erica tetralix*, *Pedicularis sylvatica*, *Succisa pratensis*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Narthecium ossifragum*, *Dactylorhiza maculata*, *Viola palustris*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*, *Sphagnum spp.*, *Polytrichum commune*.

Fauna observations: Dipper, Nuthatch, Song Thrush, Great Spotted-woodpecker.

Additional species noted from desk study: Common Frog, Greater Tussock-sedge, Flag Iris, Golden-ringed Dragonfly, Southern Hawker Dragonfly (all 2001 records), Salmon, Brown/ Sea Trout, Bullhead, Eel (1997 records), Spotted Fly-catcher (with 100m of boundary, 2010).

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: OG-9-M

SINC name: Nant-y-Moel Farm

Grid reference: SS932935

Area (hectares): 5.73

Survey date: 15 September 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This site is bordered to its south and east sides by streams that flow in steep rocky channels and include several waterfalls. They have wooded banks that include Sessile Oak, Sycamore and Ash. The ground flora has a high diversity of ferns, mosses and Ivy, with local Japanese Knotweed. Several small fields in the north of the site support damp semi-improved acid grassland grazed by sheep and horses. Ant hills are locally very abundant. The fields also include patchy Bracken and scrub and several small flushes. The other parts of the valley sides support a mosaic of Bracken, scrub, damp semi-improved grassland, marshy grassland and small stands of broad-leaved woodland.

Qualifying features

Semi-improved acid grassland with at least 7 indicator species and abundant anthills.
Semi-natural broadleaved woodland with an upland Oak woodland component.

Secondary features

Bracken. Scrub/ trees. Stone walls/ old hedge-banks. Streams. Flushes.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good roosting and foraging habitats for bats.
Potential to support Dormouse and Otter.
The areas of taller grassland are likely to support reptiles.
Potential to support locally uncommon mosses and lichens.
The semi-improved grassland is likely to support grassland fungi.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The main semi-improved grassland areas are grazed by sheep and horses, and these are in reasonable condition for nature conservation. However, several areas (mainly in the eastern part of the site) are ungrazed and these support a mix of taller, species-poor grassland, Bracken and scrub, some of which is becoming colonised by Indian Balsam. These ungrazed areas are declining in botanical diversity but still have value for other wildlife such as birds and invertebrates. They would benefit from reinstatement of grazing, or control of tall herbs and bracken. The stream corridors would especially benefit from control of Japanese Knotweed.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle, without sheep. If possible, re-introduce grazing to eastern part of site.
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.
- Local cutting back of scrub to limit encroachment into grassland habitat.
- Control of invasive species.
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

A few parts of the site have a relatively low diversity that would not normally qualify for SINC status. However, in this case they have been retained within the designated area as secondary features and as part of the overall habitat mosaic.

Several parts of the nearby valley sides to the west and north of the site (some of which is within forestry land) also appear to support acid grassland and marshy grassland communities that may meet the SINC selection criteria. The unenclosed uplands to the north-west would probably also qualify as SINC habitat.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub tree and shrub species: *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Quercus petraea*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Betula pubescens*, *Salix caprea*, *Corylus avellana*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Salix cinerea*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Hedera helix*, *Alnus glutinosa*.

Woodland ground flora species: *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Urtica dioica*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Oxalis acetosella*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Viola riviniana*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Iris pseudacorus*, *Epilobium hirsutum*, *Oenanthe crocata*, *Crocsmia crocosmiiflora*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Holcus mollis*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Juncus effusus*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Dryopteris affinis*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Brachythecium rutabulum*, *Thamnobryum alopecurum*, *Racomitrium aciculare*, *Isoetecium myosuroides*, *Mnium hornum*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Rhynchostegium confertum*, *Peltigera membranacea*.

Semi-improved acid grassland species (includes small flushes which merge into the grassland): *Agrostis capillaris*, *Nardus stricta*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Festuca rubra*, *Poa pratensis*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Luzula campestris*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Carex demissa*, *Carex binervis*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Trifolium repens*, *Galium saxatile*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Pilosella officinarum*, *Urtica dioica*, *Cerastium fontanum*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Anagallis tenella*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Galium palustre*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *Pseudoscleropodium purum*, *Sphagnum sp.*.

Fauna observations: Hedgehog (droppings), Raven, Buzzard.

Additional species noted from desk study: Unspecified bat (within 150m of boundary, 2008), Crossbill (within 200m, 1990), Lesser Spotted-woodpecker (within 200m, 2004).

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: OG-10-M

SINC name: Glynllan West

Grid reference: SS942873

Area (hectares): 7.35

Survey date: 23 August 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This site follows the route of the Nant Lechyd stream, which is mostly bordered on both sides by Alder trees and damp scrubby woodland, and several more open areas that support marshy grassland, semi-improved grassland and Bracken. The main woodland trees are Ash and Grey Willow in the damp areas near the stream, and Oak, Downy Birch and Hazel in drier parts further away. The ground flora also varies, with the main species in the drier woodland being Bracken, Bluebell, Wood Sorrel and Creeping Soft-grass while the wet woodland areas support Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage, Yellow Pimpernel, Creeping Buttercup, Remote Sedge and Indian Balsam. The marshy grassland communities are dominated by Purple Moor-grass and Tufted Hair-grass, and locally by rushes. They support a good diversity of wetland plants including Greater Tussock-sedge, Devil's-bit Scabious, Ivy-leaved Bell-flower and *Sphagnum* mosses.

Qualifying features

River with unpolluted water, relatively unmodified banks and a native fish population.

Marshy grassland with at least 12 indicator species.

Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Secondary features

Scrub woodland.

Bracken.

Semi-improved grassland.

Hedge-banks.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good roosting and foraging habitat for bats.

Potential to support Otters and Dormice.

The grassland areas are likely to support good populations of reptiles.

Potential to support locally uncommon invertebrates and breeding birds.

The marshy grassland habitat appears potentially suitable for Marsh Fritillary butterflies.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The majority of the site appears to have no active management, although the larger areas of marshy grassland do appear to be grazed occasionally. It is generally in a reasonable condition for nature conservation. The grassland habitats would probably be enhanced by an increase in grazing to limit the dominance of scrub and tussocky grasses.

Indian Balsam is locally frequent, especially near to the stream. It would be beneficial to control this to prevent it from spreading further into the site.

Tipped garden and domestic refuse was observed at several places near to the road. There also appears to be a problem with vandalism and fires, especially in the wooded areas closest to the houses.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora.
- Control of invasive species.
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats.
- Local cutting back of scrub to limit encroachment into grassland habitat.
- Local Bracken control to maintain grassland habitat.
- Continue with light grazing in grassland areas, ideally by horses or cattle, not sheep.
- Remove tipped material near houses, and try to prevent further tipping.
- Consider provision of artificial Otter holt in a quiet part of the river-bank.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

Several patches within the site support species-poor grassland and woodland that would not normally qualify for SINC status. They have been retained within the SINC in this case as they form part of the overall habitat mosaic and only occupy a small proportion of the total area.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub tree species: *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Quercus robur*, *Quercus petraea*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Corylus avellana*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Salix cinerea*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Betula pubescens*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Frangula alnus*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Rosa arvensis*, *Hedera helix*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Buddleja davidii*.

Woodland and scrub ground flora species: *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Geum urbanum*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, *Urtica dioica*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Mercurialis perennis*, *Anemone nemorosa*, *Oxalis acetosella*, *Rubus idaeus*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Viola riviniana*, *Fragaria vesca*, *Conopodium majus*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Veronica beccabunga*, *Stellaria holostea*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Holcus mollis*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Juncus effusus*, *Carex remota*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Mnium hornum*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Thuidium tamariscinum*, *Pseudoscleropodium purum*, *Polytrichastrum formosum*,

Marshy grassland species: *Molinia caerulea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Festuca rubra*, *Carex echinata*, *Carex paniculata*, *Carex laevigata*, *Eriophorum angustifolium*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus squarrosus*, *Succisa pratensis*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Galium palustre*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Epilobium palustre*, *Erica tetralix*, *Pedicularis sylvatica*, *Viola palustris*, *Dactylorhiza cf maculata*, *Wahlenbergia hederacea*, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Iris pseudacorus*, *Eupatorium cannabinum*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Persicaria hydropiper*, *Cardamine flexuosa*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Sphagnum spp.*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*.

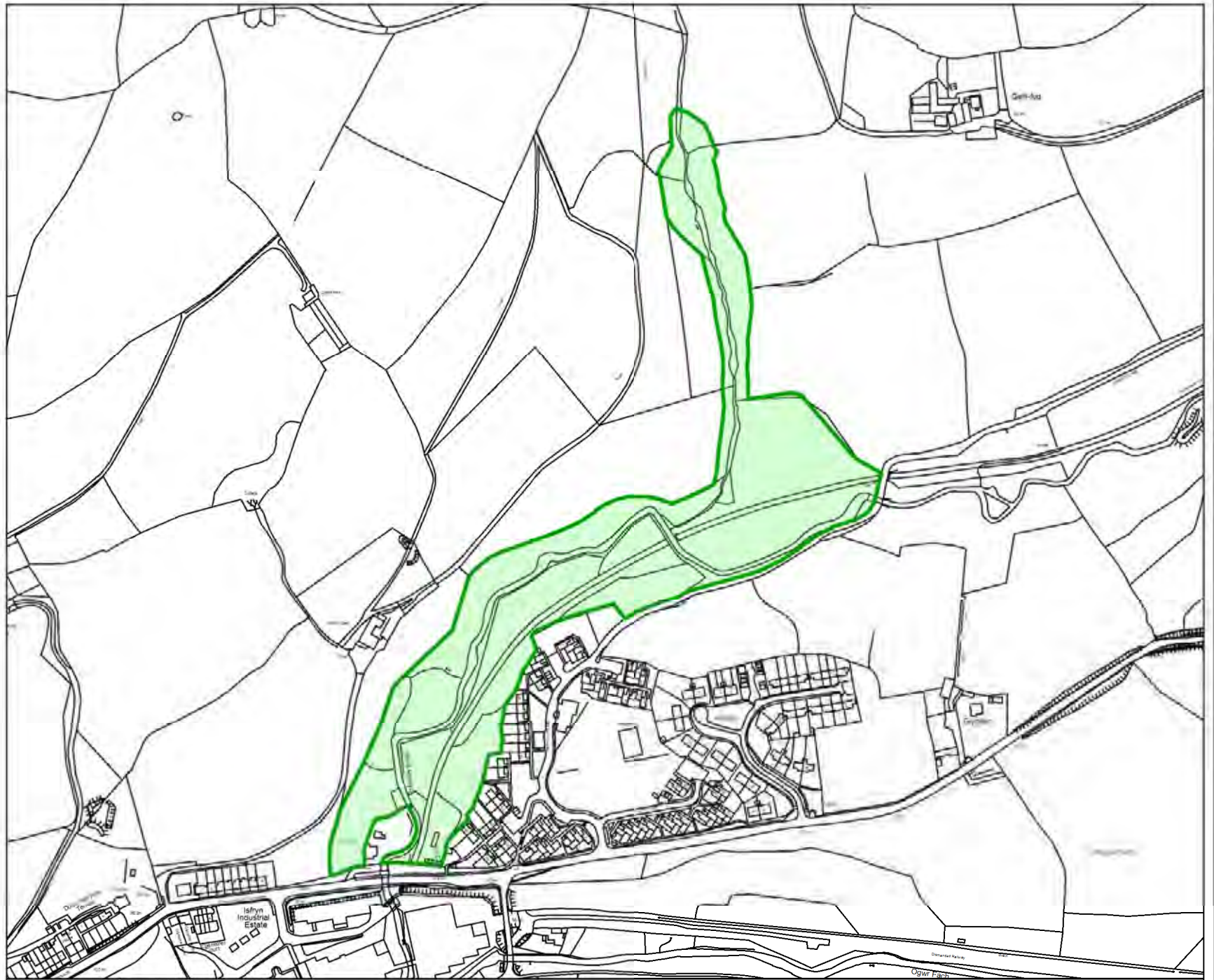
Fauna observations: Otter (spraint), Slow Worm, Common Lizard, Brown Trout, Golden-ringed Dragonfly, Grey Heron.

Additional species noted from desk study: Bullhead, Salmon, Eel, (1997 records), Unspecified bat (2005), Spotted Flycatcher (within 150m of boundary, 2010), High Brown Fritillary butterfly (within 150m of boundary, 1996).



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

OG-10-M
Glynllan West



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 15/08/2013

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Scale 1:5,000 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: PEN -1-N

SINC name: Hirwaun Common

Grid reference: SS 944 828

Area (hectares): 122.36

Survey date: 27/09/2011

Surveyor: Rebecca East

Summary description

Large common land area with a variety of habitats including acidic grassland, neutral grassland, marshy grassland, scrub, dense bracken and small areas of woodland,

Qualifying features

Marshy grassland

Scrub

Secondary features

Acidic grassland

Neutral grassland

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Ground nesting birds are likely to utilise the open spaces, as are amphibian and reptile species including adders. The common provides good hunting habitat for birds of prey and the prey animals such as hares and small birds. The diverse habitats available are likely to support a variety of invertebrate species.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Some of the bracken areas are being rolled to prevent it encroaching on the species rich grassland areas. The remainder of the common land is grazed by a few ponies and sheep. Rolling bracken in most areas of the common will be necessary to prevent its spread, with some scrub control. Stocking by low densities of cattle would be preferable as they are less selective in their feeding. Where wet grasslands have become rank, cutting may be necessary to give grazing animals a head start. Laying hedges on the perimeter of fields and some selective felling of wooded areas is also recommended.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continued management of bracken and introduce scrub control.
- Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle, without sheep.
- Consider cutting rank grassland.
- Lay hedges.

Additional information:

The Bridgend common was subject to an extensive survey of the habitat and species. It was thought that this information would be more detailed than what could be achieved on the day of the SINC review survey, therefore this information should be included.

Adjacent high quality habitats should be surveyed and considered for inclusion into the SINC designated boundary.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Hard rush *Juncus inflexus*, soft rush *J. effusus*, carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, mat grass *Nardus stricta*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, bell heather *Erica cinerea*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, heath rush *J. squarrosus*, cotton grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, jointed rush *J. articulatus*, sphagnum species *Sphagnum* sp., gorse *Ulex europaeus*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*.

Woodland and scrub species

Faunal species

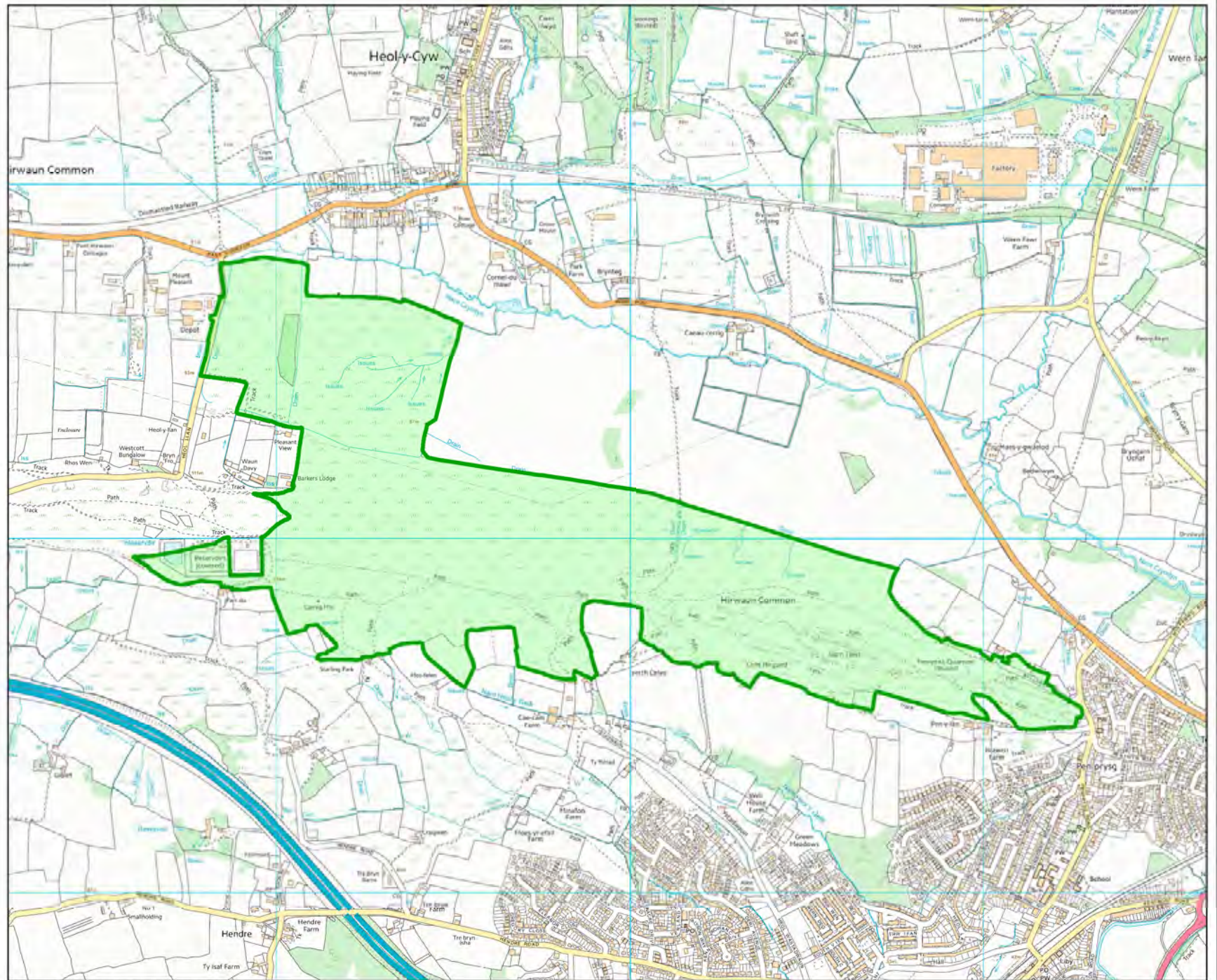
Swallow

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary, small pearl bordered fritillary, small heath, kestrel, brown hare, green hairstreak, meadow thistle



**PEN-1-N
Hirwaun Common**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: PEN-2-N

SINC name: Bryngwenith and Ty Chwith

Grid reference: SS 940 827

Area (hectares): 37.48

Survey date: 27/09/2011

Surveyor: Rebecca East

Summary description

Low lying common land whose area is divided up by scrub, woodland and old field boundaries. Marshy grasslands and bracken make up the most dominant habitat types, in a mosaic site.

Qualifying features

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Mosaic habitats

Secondary features

Native woodland

Scrub

Bracken

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The grassland habitats may be of value to a wide variety of fauna, including invertebrate species, small mammals including hares and prey species for birds of prey. There is potential for amphibians and reptiles of several species given the diversity of habitats. The woodland scrub and old hedges are likely to support many bird species. Small watercourses could provide conditions suitable for water vole or water shrew.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Evidence of bracken rolling having taken place prior to the survey was noted. Cattle and sheep roam freely through the site providing light grazing. Bracken and scrub encroach on to the grassland areas and the site is thought to be in decline. A greater density of stock might be required to sustain this site into the future however, some further bracken rolling and scrub clearance will be required first. Some cutting of the rush pasture and purple moor grass may be required to start with before turning out cattle to graze. Maintaining soil moisture levels and a lack of chemical fertilizers or manure will be important for the conserving the biodiversity interest of this site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continued management of bracken to prevent a decrease in floristic value of the grassland.
- Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle, without sheep.
- Cutting rush pasture prior to grazing may be necessary.

Additional information:

The site as common land has been the subject of a recent study of the habitats and species present. The information gathered for such a study would be of greater value than what is presented through the SINC review survey and should therefore be included in this data sheet.

The paths which are marked rights of way through this area deviate from the map and are difficult to follow due to scrub encroachment.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Grassland flora

Met grass *Nardus stricta*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, gorse, *Ulex europaeus*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, round leaved water crowfoot *Ranunculus omiophilus*, water purslane *Lythrum portula*, sphagnum species *Sphagnum* sp, lesser spearwort *R. flammula*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, flote grass *Glyceria fluitans*, brooklime *Veronica beccabunga*, water starwort *Calithriche* sp., devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, yellow sedge *Carex viridula*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, hard rush *J. inflexus*, lesser skullcap *Scutellaria minor*, star sedge *C. echinata*, common milkwort *Polygala vulgaris*.

Woodland and scrub species

Hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, goat willow *Salix caprea*, grey willow *S. cinerea*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, hawthorn *Crataegus mongyna*, white poplar *Populus alba*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, dog violet *Viola riviana*, enchanter's nightshade *Circea lutetiana*,

Faunal species

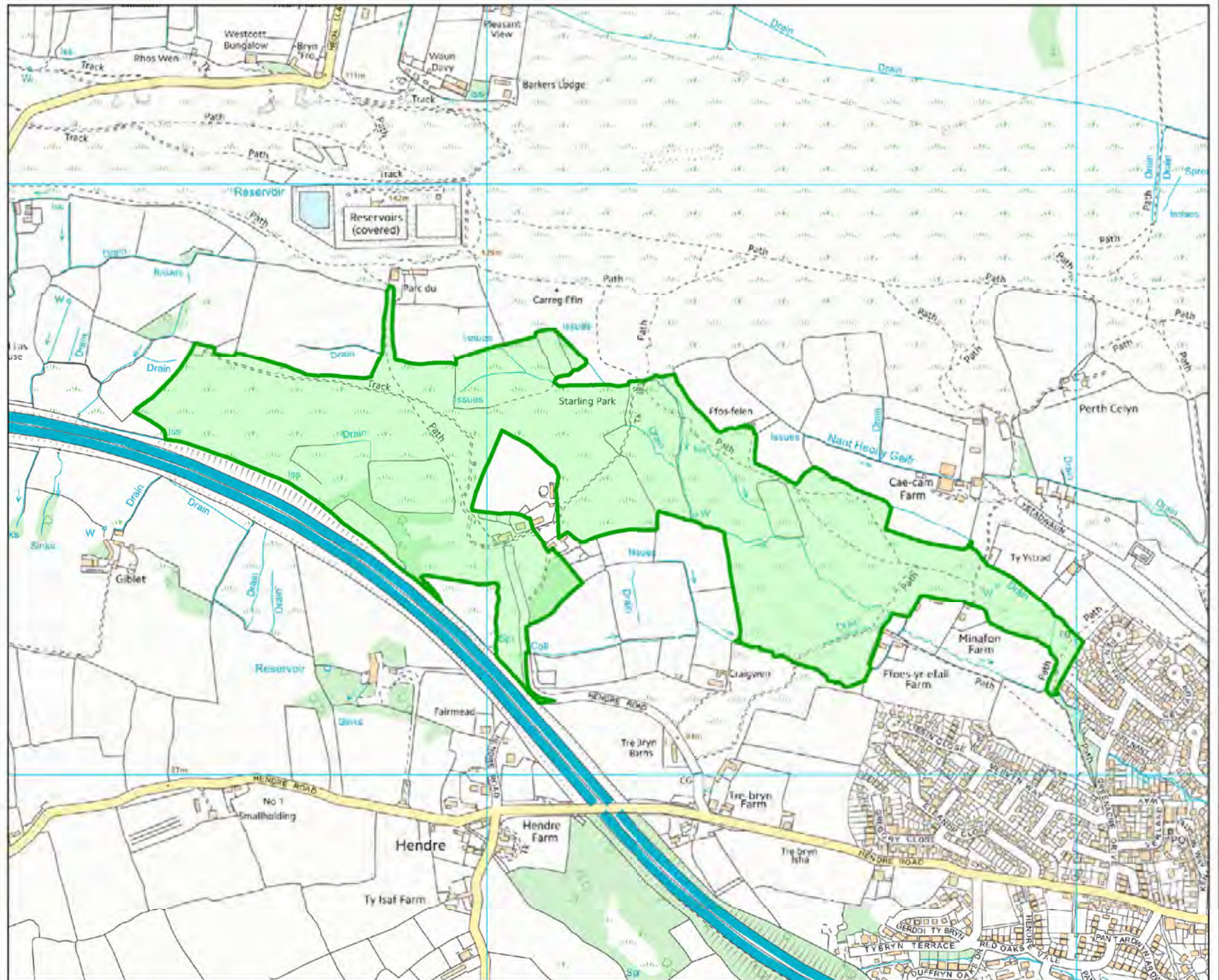
Buzzard, greater spotted woodpecker, wren, blackbird, kestrel

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary, small pearl bordered fritillary, small heath, kestrel, green hairstreak, meadow thistle



PEN-2-N
Bryngwenith and
Ty-Chwith



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: PEN-3-N

SINC name: Brynau Gwynian

Grid reference: SS 972 827

Area (hectares): 25.46

Survey date: 28/09/2011

Surveyor: Rebecca East

Summary description

This site is composed primarily of one corner of the Brynna a Wern Tarw SSSI, designated for its mixture of species rich marshy grasslands, neutral grasslands, with areas of woodland and heath. The SSSI also supports marsh fritillary butterfly. The SINC designation covers two additional areas which, may not contain the diversity of indicator species required to qualify as SINC status.

Qualifying features

Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Native woodland

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The stream has potential for a variety of fish species such as salmon, brown trout, eel and bullhead as well as a diversity of invertebrates and bird species such as kingfisher, dipper and grey wagtail.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The SSSI portion of the site is managed sensitively for wildlife. However the small areas within the SINC designation, which are not SSSI are heavily grazed and mown. Moderate to light cattle grazing is generally carried out and its continuation is recommended. In addition to the grassland management, hedges could be laid to extend the life of the hedgerows, while controlling scrub encroachment.

Recommendations for future management:

- The SSSI must continue to be managed in accordance with CCW requirements
- The SINC should have a reduction of livestock density to prevent overgrazing and therefore increase the floristic value of the site
- Lay hedges and control scrub.

Additional information:

The grassland portion of the SINC outside of the SSSI boundary holds little biodiversity interest and should be considered for removal from the boundary.

Landowner: Mr David Evans, Ty Draw Farm, Pencoed.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, marsh foxtail *Alopecurus geniculatus*, water pepper *Persicaria hydropiper*, silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, cuckoo flower *Cardamine pratensis*.

Woodland and scrub species

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, greater stitchwort *Stellaria holostea*, dig violet *Viola riviana*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, dog rose *Rosa canina*.

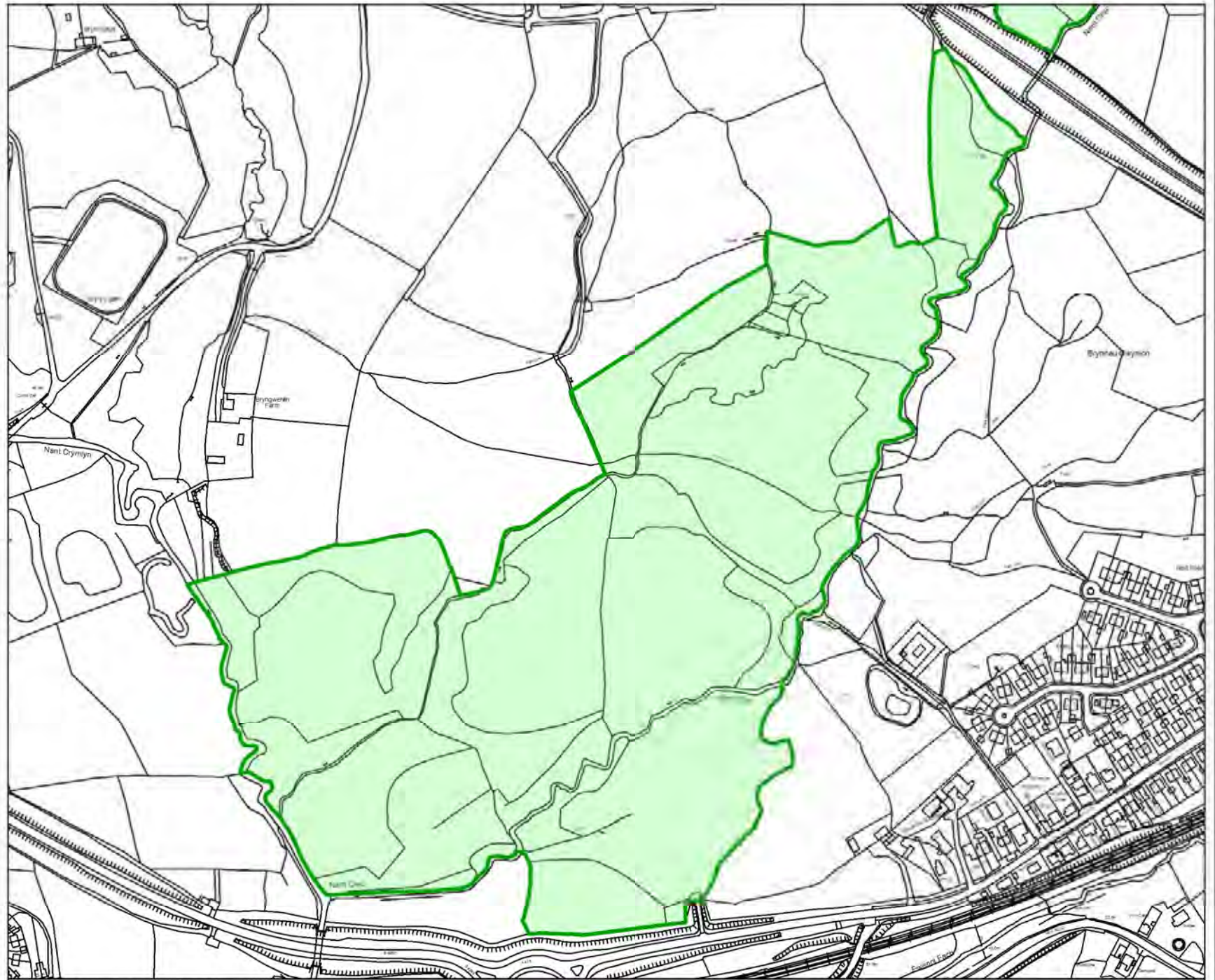
Faunal species

Species from data search (0m)

Marsh fritillary, small pearl bordered fritillary, meadow thistle slender ground hopper.



PEN-3-N
Brynau Gwynian



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: PEN-4-S

SINC name: Coed Isetyn

Grid reference: SS 954 821

Area (hectares): 5.16

Survey date: 28/09/2011

Surveyor: Rebecca East

Summary description

Broadleaved woodland and ponds with a good structure and species diversity. Neutral grasslands are also included in the SINC

Qualifying features

Native woodland

Secondary features

Ponds

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The ranger carried out his PhD research on great crested newts at this site and reported eggs present earlier this year. Other amphibian species are likely to be present and possibly some reptile species.

The site is suitable for a range of mammalian species including dormice, bats, harvest mice and voles. Otters may be able to visit the ponds from a nearby stream.

It is likely that a diversity of woodland and aquatic invertebrate species are present with a diversity of bird species.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

The woodland is under active management by Pencoed town council. Selective felling and some clearance was taking place at the time of survey and its continuation throughout the site on a rotational basis is recommended. The ponds were in reasonably good condition but requiring some scrub and litter removal as they were becoming shaded and silted with a moderate degree of willow encroachment. A good proportion of open water should be maintained to maximise the value of this habitat. The grasslands to the north of the site were quite intensively grazed, to restore the plant diversity and biodiversity interest of this area and less intensive grazing would be required in the absence of fertilizers and manure.

Recommendations for future management:

- Continued management of the woodland by the council, extension to remainder of the site.
- Clearance of the ponds to leave open areas and remove litter.
- Possible creation of at least one additional pond.

Additional information:

No PSYM aquatic monitoring techniques were used during the site visit.

Landowner: Pencoed Town Council

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Woodland and scrub species

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, alder *Alnus glutinosa*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, polypody *Polypodium vulgare*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, soft shield fern *Polystichum setiferum*, hart's tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, dog violet *Viola riviniana*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, wood sedge *C. sylvatica*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, yellow pimpernel *Lysimachia nemorum*.

Faunal species

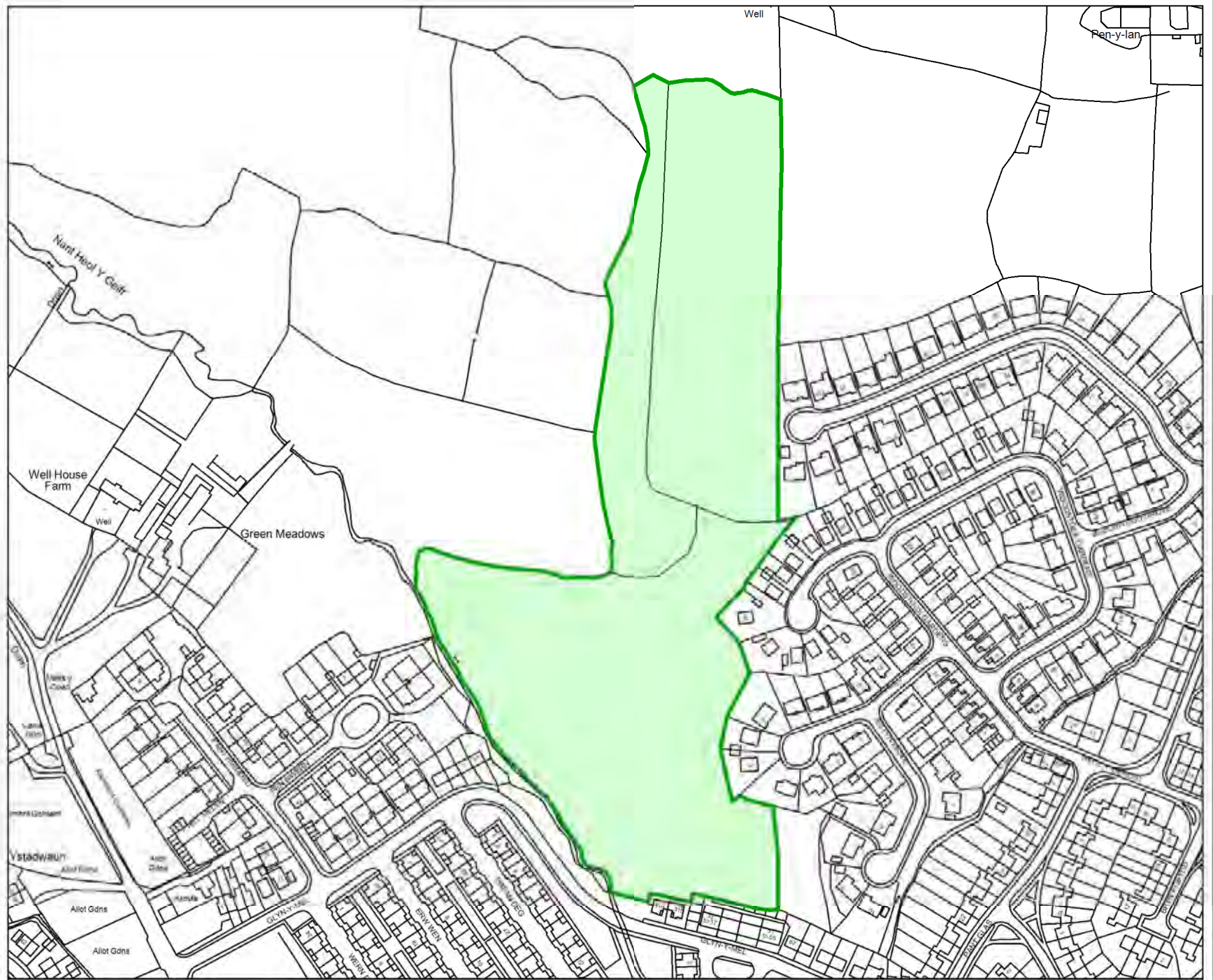
Moorhen, mallard, mole, nuthatch, long-tailed tit, blackbird, grater spotted woodpecker

Faunal species from data search (0m)

None



PEN-4-S
Coed Iestyn



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: PEN-5-N

SINC name: Ewenny River Fields

Grid reference: SS959803

Area (hectares): 3.33

Survey date: 29 August 2011

Surveyor: Peter Sturgess

Summary description

This area comprises several fields of neutral grassland and part of the Ewenny River. The fields have been unmanaged for several years and are undergoing a natural succession to tussocky grassland with tall herbs and patchy scrub. Most of the area appears compacted and poorly drained and supports a damp grassland flora, with frequent species including Hard Rush, Fleabane, Meadow Sweet, Creeping Buttercup, Red Clover, Glaucous Sedge, and Bird's-foot Trefoil. Anthills are present in a few places. Several lines of dense scrub which cross the site might be former hedgerows. The fields appear to have been subject to disturbance in the past, and there are still several sparsely vegetated areas. These areas of shallow soil support a relatively diverse flora, including Blue Fleabane, Common Centaury, Ox-eye Daisy and locally abundant Common Spotted Orchids. Japanese Knotweed and Indian Balsam are locally dominant in some places in the west of the site, and locally on the river bank. The river bank in this location is heavily armoured by block-stone on both sides. The top of the banks are mostly fringed by Alders, locally widening to scrubby plantation woodland dominated by Hawthorn, Hazel and Sycamore in the west of the area.

Qualifying features

Mosaic of at least three habitat types, at least one of which approaches selection status. (In this case the site supports a diverse grassland community, river with a native fish population, scrub and tall herb vegetation).

Secondary features

Semi-improved grassland.

Dense and scattered scrub.

Bracken and tall herb vegetation.

River.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The site has potential to provide good foraging habitat for bats.

Potential to provide good resting sites for Otters.

Likely to support a good range of breeding birds.

Likely to support reptiles.

Potential to support locally uncommon species of invertebrates.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

None of the area appears to be actively managed. The site generally appears to be in a reasonable condition for nature conservation, although its value is probably declining as scrub and tall herbs gradually replace the grassland communities.

Indian Balsam and Japanese Knotweed are widespread and locally abundant, especially in the west of the area and beside the river. Wildlife at the site would benefit from the removal of these non-native species, and establishment of grassland maintenance by grazing. The area would appear to be a good location for creation of a wildlife pond, and this would also complement the existing habitat mosaic.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of invasive species.
- Local cutting back of scrub to limit encroachment into grassland habitat.
- Creation of at least one pond.
- Re-introduction of grazing, if possible. Preferably light grazing by horses or cattle.

Additional information:

The site was surveyed by a combination of spot-checks, scanning with binoculars and use of aerial photography.

Several parts within this SINC would not meet the selection criteria if assessed on their own. However, they have been retained within the designated area as secondary features or because they form part of a habitat mosaic.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland and scrub canopy species: *Salix cinerea*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Hedera helix*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Corylus avellana*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Rosa canina*, *Salix alba*, *Salix viminalis*, *Alnus cordata*.

Woodland and scrub ground flora species (often merging with the grassland communities): *Urtica dioica*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Heracleum sphondylium*, *Stachys sylvatica*, *Veronica chamaedrys*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Petasites fragrans*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Carex remota*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Polystichum setiferum*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Brachythecium rutabulum*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Kindbergia praelonga*.

Grassland species (all areas combined): *Dactylis glomerata*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Elytrigia repens*, *Festuca rubra*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Phleum pratense*, *Carex flacca*, *Carex hirta*, *Luzula campestris*, *Juncus inflexus*, *Juncus articulatus*, *Juncus effusus*, *Pulicaria dysenterica*, *Trifolium repens*, *Plantago lanceolata*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Fallopia japonica*, *Trifolium pratense*, *Ranunculus acris*, *Heracleum sphondylium*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*, *Vicia cracca*, *Vicia sepium*, *Centaurea nigra*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Stachys palustris*, *Hypericum maculatum*, *Medicago lupulina*, *Pastinaca sativa*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Hypochaeris radicata*, *Centaureum erythraea*, *Glechoma hederacea*, *Erigeron acer*, *Torilis japonica*, *Senecio jacobaea*, *Tussilago farfara*, *Taraxacum officinale*, *Mentha sp.*, *Leucanthemum vulgare*, *Eupatorium cannabinum*, *Prunella vulgaris*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Daucus carota*, *Lycopus europaeus*, *Lathyrus pratensis*, *Potentilla anserina*, *Conyza canadensis*, *Sagina procumbens*, *Typha latifolia*, *Iris pseudacorus*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Silene dioica*, *Persicaria hydropiper*, *Epilobium hirsutum*, *Oenanthe crocata*, *Galium palustre*, *Mentha aquatica*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*, *Pogonatum urnigerum*, *Cladonia sp.*, *Hygrocybe conica*.

Fauna observations: Mole (Mole-hills), Goldfinch, Green Woodpecker, Mistle Thrush, Long-tailed Tit, Jay, Magpie, Green-veined White butterfly, Common Blue butterfly, Speckled Wood butterfly, Meadow Brown butterfly, Gatekeeper butterfly, Elephant Hawk-moth (caterpillar).

Additional species noted from desk study: Common Pipistrelle (within 150m of boundary, 2001), Bullhead, Salmon, Brown/ Sea Trout, Eel (within 250m of boundary, 1997), Otter (within 350m of boundary, 2002), Hobby (within 100m of boundary, 2007), Adder (within 150m of boundary, 2001).



PEN-5-N
Ewenny River Fields



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council**SINC number: POR-1-M****SINC name: Newton Burrows****Grid reference: SS837769 (area A), SS842773 (area B), SS850775 (area C)****Area (hectares): 38.89Ha (including areas covered by SSSI and therefore not surveyed)****Survey date: 14th September 2011 Surveyor: Abbey Sanders****Summary description**

The majority of the SINC is covered by the Merthyr Mawr Site of Special Scientific Interest, with three small blocks of the SINC remaining outside along the north-west boundary of the site. Area A to the south comprises of an area of spoil, a small car park and track and edge of dune with ephemeral/ short perennial and dune grassland habitats, species include Dewberry, Restharrow, Fennel, Hare's-foot Clover, Lady's Bedstraw, English Stonecrop and Large-flowered Evening Primrose. Area B is covered by a playing field/ amenity grassland and does not appear to meet SINC criteria. Area C contains an area of scattered scrub and ruderal herbs with Ash, Hazel, Sycamore, Field Maple and Rosebay Willowherb, Hemp Agrimony, Spear Thistle, Strawberry and Wild marjoram. South of a lane through this area is semi-natural broadleaved scrub woodland with Hazel, Hawthorn, Blackthorn and ground flora including Bluebells, Lord's-and-Ladies, Hart's-tongue Fern, Herb Robert, Nipplewort and Ivy. There is some Japanese Knotweed along the lane through this part of the site.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland with an assemblage of indicator species, dune grassland

Secondary features

Bluebells, scattered scrub

Potential value/ unconfirmed features**Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)**

Subject to Newton Burrows Proposed Local Nature Reserve Management Plan

Some Japanese Knotweed along lane in centre of Area C

Additional information:

Majority of site covered by Merthyr Mawr SSSI designation and so not surveyed.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Area A:

Flora species:

Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, Dandelion *Taraxacum sp.*, Dewberry *Rubus caesius*, Dove's-foot Cranesbill *Geranium molle*, Fennel *Foeniculum vulgare*, Gorse *Ulex europaeus*, Hare's-foot Clover *Trifolium arvense*, Lady's Bedstraw *Galium verum*, Large-flowered Evening Primrose *Oenothera erythrosala*, White Clover *Trifolium repens*, Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, Restharrow *Ononis repens*, Ribwort Plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, Sand Sedge *Carex arenaria*, Sea Rocket *Cakile maritima*, English Stonecrop *Sedum anglicum*, *Vicia sp.*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*

Fauna observations: various grasshopper species

Area C:

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*

Ground flora species: Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, Field Bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis*, Hart's-tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Hemp Agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica*, Lord's-and-Ladies *Arum maculatum*, Mint *Mentha sp.*, Nipplewort *Lapsana communis*, Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Rosebay Willowherb *Chamaenerion angustifolium*, Spear Thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, Stinging Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Wild Marjoram *Origanum vulgare*, Wild Strawberry *Fragaria vesca*

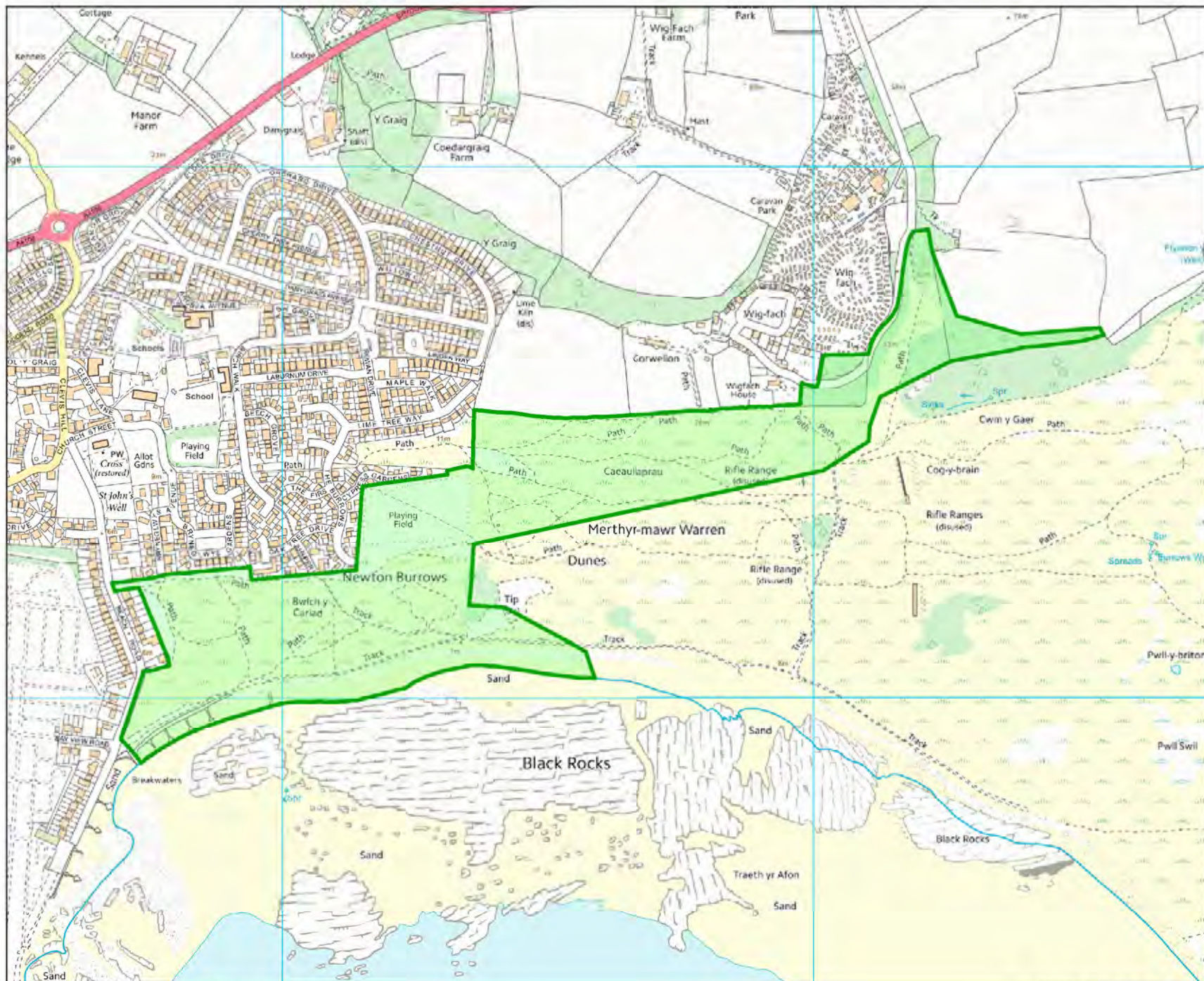
Fauna observations: Badger *Meles meles*, Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*, Mole *Talpa europaeus*, Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*, Small Tortoiseshell *Aglais urticae*

Additional species noted from desk study (relating to full SINC site): Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus sp.* (200m outside site boundary), Common Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, Noctule *Nyctalus noctula*, (350m outside site boundary)

Within site: Slow-worm *Anguis fragilis*, Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*, Mole Cricket *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa* (1937), Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*, Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*, Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*, Adder *Vipera berus*



**POR-1-M
Newton Burrows**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-2-S

SINC name: Locks Common

Grid reference: SS805775

Area (hectares): 34.53ha

Survey date: 11th September 2011

Surveyor: Abbey Sanders

Summary description

Extensive open mosaic of grassland habitats and Gorse dominated scrub, with some areas of semi-improved calcareous grassland, some of which is damp with Kidney Vetch, Salad Burnet and Wild Thyme, and some semi-improved neutral grassland with species including Devil's-bit Scabious, Common-Bird's-Foot Trefoil and Glaucous Sedge. Areas of scrub include Hawthorn, Blackthorn and ground flora including Lords-and-Ladies together with Bracken. Some amenity grassland, intertidal rocks, heathland and coastal grassland areas are included within the site as well as exposed limestone pavement rocks at the north end of the site.

Qualifying features

Inland rock exposures (limestone pavement).

Dense scrub with Gorse.

Semi-improved neutral and calcareous grassland.

Secondary features

Heathland.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

May support breeding or otherwise significant populations of species of fauna including birds and reptiles recorded within the site (from desk study).

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Subject to Locks Common Proposed Local Nature Reserve Management Plan, well-used for public access including dog walking.

Recommendations for future management:

- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats
- Control measures for litter and dog-fouling
- Consider introduction of light grazing by cattle or ponies, rather than sheep, where issues around public access/ fencing can be resolved
- Alternatively continue management by mowing, with two cuts a year, the second in late summer after plants have flowered and dropped seed, with arisings removed from the site
- Consider installing a range of nest boxes to encourage breeding birds in suitable sheltered locations protected from likely disturbance by users of the site including dogs.

Additional information:

Survey is based on spot checks rather than a full walk of site boundaries.

Information board about the site on display at the northern end close to the beach.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Flora species:

Alexanders *Smyrnium olusatrum*, Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Buck's-horn Plantain *Plantago coronopus*, Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, Common Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, Common Scurvy-grass *Cochlearia officinalis*, Devil's-bit Scabious *Succisa pratensis*, Dove's-foot Crane's-bill *Geranium molle*, Great Plantain *Plantago major*, Glaucous Sedge *Carex flacca*, Gorse *Ulex europaeus*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Heather *Calluna vulgaris*, Common Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Kidney Vetch *Anthyllis vulneraria*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Ribwort Plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, Rock Samphire *Crithmum maritimum*, Rosebay Willowherb *Epilobium angustifolium*, Sea Rocket *Cakile maritima*, Silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, Spring Squill *Scilla verna*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*.

Fauna observations:

Anthills, Mole *Talpa europaeus*, Black-headed gull *Larus ridibundus* Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Within site: various including; Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*, Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*, Common Centaury *Centaureum erythraea*, Common Cockchafer *Melolontha melolontha*, Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*, Common Lizard *Lacerta [Zootoca] vivipara*, Common Mallow *Malva sylvestris*, Common Whitlow Grass *Erophila verna*, Curlew *Numenius arquata* Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata*, Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*, Hairy Sedge *Carex hirta*, Harebell *Campanula rotundifolia*, Heath Bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, Lady's Bedstraw *Galium verum*, Lords-and-Ladies *Arum maculatum*, Merlin *Falco columbarius*, Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, Salad Burnet *Sanguisorba minor*, Skylark *Alauda arvensis*, Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*, Spring Sedge *Carex caryophylla*, Stoat *Mustela erminea*, Wild Basil *Clinopodium vulgare*, Wild Thyme *Thymus polytrichus*, Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*.



POR-2-M
 Locks Common



Map generated by: AQ
 Date: 15/08/2013

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-3-M

SINC name: Pant-y-Hyl

Grid reference: SS833790

Area (hectares): 34.19ha

Survey date: 27th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

An extensive area with mosaic of scrub, woodland and semi-improved grassland habitats. Woodland to the north-western part of the site is dominated by Ash with areas of Sycamore, Hazel coppice and Sweet Chestnut with the central part of the site dominated by dense areas of Gorse scrub with Bracken and Hawthorn and Blackthorn scrub along field boundaries. Further small woodland areas and mature trees along the south-eastern site boundary are dominated by Ash and Sycamore. The north-eastern part of the site contains two fields, one which was recently harvested crop with some scrub patches and another improved grassland with stands of Gorse, Bracken and Hawthorn scrub at the northern part of the site. A flock of Goldfinch (c.20) were seen feeding on thistles here. Reptile records are known from the site with the central part of the site offering extensive areas of suitable habitat.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural woodland to the north-western and south-eastern parts of the site, Gorse scrub, dense Bracken and semi-improved grassland present in mosaic towards central areas.

Secondary features

An active badger sett is present along the south-west boundary.

Reptiles present including Adder and Slow-worm (from desk study).

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats and specialist habitat for various birds and invertebrates, including diverse range of spiders.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Site within Limestone and High Purity Limestone Safeguarding Zone (LDP).

The central area of the site is grazed by sheep and cattle with horses accessing the woodland to the north-west.

Recommendations for future management:

- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats
- Continue with light grazing, where possible by cattle or ponies rather than sheep to encourage greater diversity of structure and species within grassland plants
- Local woodland management by thinning/ re-coppicing as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora. Consider removal of Sycamore to allow replacement by native species through natural regeneration or planting locally typical species
- Consider installing and maintaining a range of bat boxes and a range of bird boxes
- Consider providing artificial reptile hibernacula features (which can be made following

widely available designs based on loosely piled stones covered with earth and allowed to grass/ scrub over) on the edges of central grassland areas in sheltered, sunny spots bordering woodland.

Additional information:

Fields at the north-eastern part of the site were of limited ecological interest at the time of survey and do not appear to meet the SINC criteria, although it is noted that they connect remaining parts of the site with the adjacent SINC POR-10-S The Beacons.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Bird Cherry *Prunus avium*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Gorse *Ulex europaeus*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Horse Chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species: Barren Strawberry *Potentilla sterilis*, Betony *Betonica officinalis*, Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Greater Burdock *Arctium lappa*, Hairy Brome *Bromus ramosus*, Hart's-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Hawkweed Species *Hieracium* sp., Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, Old Man's Beard *Clematis vitalba*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Ribwort Plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, Self-heal *Prunella vulgaris*, Silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, Spear Thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, Violet species *Viola* sp. Water Mint *Mentha aquatica*.

Fauna observations: Badger *Meles meles* Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*, Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*, Hedge Accentor (Dunnock) *Prunella modularis*, Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*, Large White butterfly *Pieris brassicae*, Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*, Peacock butterfly *Inachis io*, European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*, Seven-spot Ladybird *Coccinella 7-punctata*, Small Copper butterfly *Lycaena phlaeas*, Speckled Wood butterfly *Pararge aegeria*, Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*.

Unidentified spiders on Gorse.

Additional species noted from desk study:

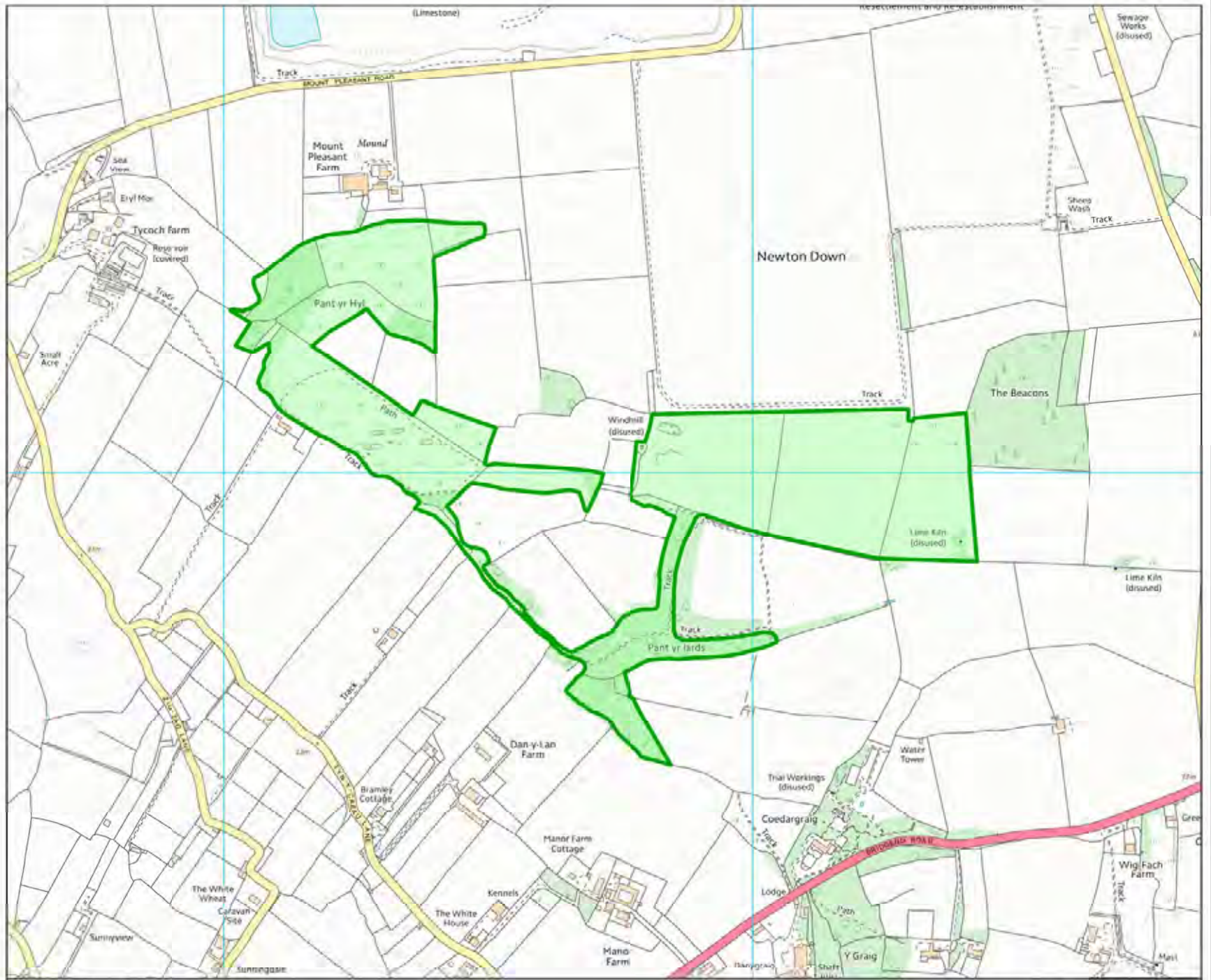
Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* sp. (350m outside site boundary).

Within site: Slow-worm *Anguis fragilis*, Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*, Mole Cricket *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa*, Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*, Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*, Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*, Adder *Vipera berus*, Skylark *Alauda arvensis*, Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*, Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, Small Heath *Coenonympha pamphilus*, Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*, Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*, Dingy Skipper *Erynnis tages*, Fragrant Orchid *Gymnadenia conopsea*, Common Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*, Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*, Powdered Quaker *Orthosia gracilis*, House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Grizzled Skipper *Pyrgus malvae*, Common Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*, Cinnabar *Tyria jacobaeae* (also 16 further LBAP species).

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*, Merlin *Falco columbarius* (100m outside site boundary), Barn Owl *Tyto alba* (200m outside site boundary).



POR-3-M
Pant-Y-Hyl



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 Date: 02/08/2013

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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-5-S

SINC name: Graig Wood

Grid reference: SS842779

Area (hectares): 8.94Ha

Survey date: 14th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Mixed semi-natural broadleaved woodland on an ancient woodland site, comprising of a wider block adjacent to the road extending into a narrower belt of similar woodland extending along the hilltop to the east of the block. The canopy is dominated by Ash with some areas of Sycamore, others of Oak or Beech with an understory of occasional Spindle, Hazel, Hawthorn, Elm and Horse Chestnut. Ground flora include Bluebells, Hart's-tongue Fern, Red Currant and Dog's Mercury.

Qualifying features

Broad-leaved woodland site registered on the Ancient Woodland Inventories.

Secondary features

Bluebells.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and potential roosting opportunities for bats.

Potential breeding populations of qualifying bird species recorded close to the site.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Some garden waste tipped along western boundary, invasive species including Himalayan Balsam are present on the roadside near the site to the north.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of invasive, non-native species including Himalayan Balsam
- Remove tipped waste along western boundary and try to prevent further tipping through fencing or liaising with local residents/ businesses
- Local woodland management by thinning/ re-coppicing as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- Consider installing and maintaining bat and bird boxes to provide additional roosting/ nesting sites

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, European Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Field Rose *Rosa arvensis*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Large-leaved Lime *Tilia platyphyllos*, Oak *Quercus* sp., Spindle *Euonymus europaeus*, Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species: Barren Strawberry *Potentilla sterilis*, Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Hart's-tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Lords-and-Ladies *Arum maculatum*, Male Fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, Nipplewort *Lapsana communis*, Redcurrant *Ribes rubrum*.

Fauna observations:

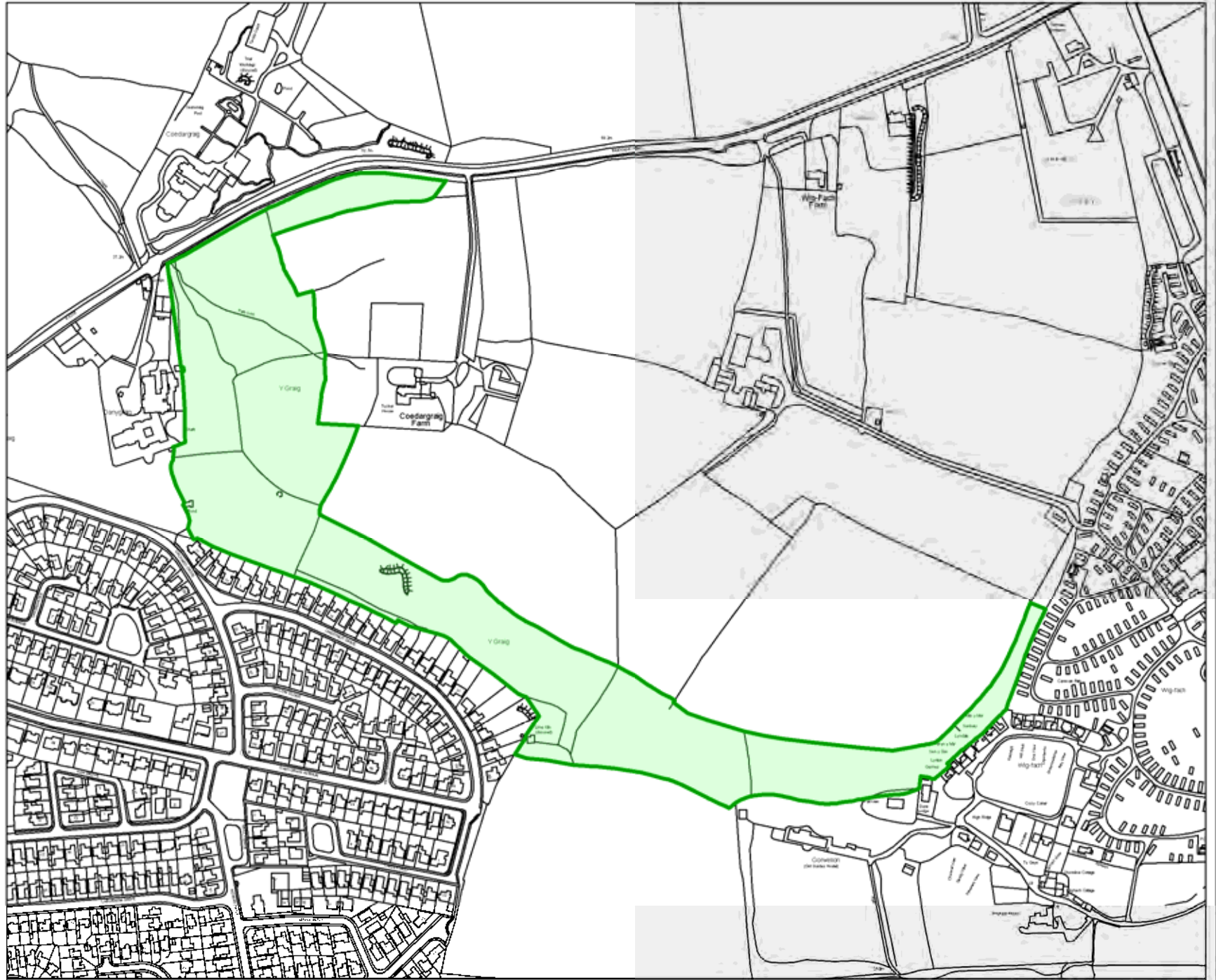
Badger *Meles meles*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus* sp. (300m outside site boundary), Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*, Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla* (100m outside site boundary), Barn Owl *Tyto alba* (150m outside of site boundary), Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (within 250m of site boundary).



POR-5-S
Graig Wood



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-6-S

SINC name: The Wilderness

Grid reference: SS822776

Area (hectares): 8.82Ha

Survey date: 20th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Amenity site with a range of semi-natural habitats around a lake which is used for recreational access and fishing. Broadleaved semi-natural woodland has established on islands in the lake with scrub around the margins and broadleaved woodland plantation on the sides of the lake, with Willows, Alder and Cherry dominant in the canopy and Elder, English Elm, thorn species and Field Maple present. Areas of amenity grassland and improved grassland are also present around the main site, with a separate wet semi-improved neutral grassland field at the north-west part of the site with Willows, Reedmace, Flag Iris, Water Mint and Meadowsweet.

Qualifying features

Open water, scrub.

Secondary features

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland, wet semi-improved neutral grassland.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Wilderness Lake Management Committee/ Plan.

Some *Phragmites* reed has been planted in a basket in the centre of the lake recently.

Amenity lake with public access and fishing, some non-native plants.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning/ re-coppicing as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats at the north-west wet meadow part of the site
- Repair and maintenance of field boundaries to the north-west wet meadow part of the site
- Grazing of wet meadow area at low intensity by cattle or ponies where possible, rather than sheep

Additional information:

Majority owned by BCBC.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Buddleia *Buddleia davidii*, Cherry *Prunus* sp., Elder *Sambucus nigra*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Goat Willow *Salix caprea*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Willow *Salix* sp(p).

Ground flora species:

Amphibious bistort *Persicaria amphibia*, Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, Broad-leaved Dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, Common Agrimony *Agrimonia eupatoria*, Common Sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, Creeping Cinquefoil *Potentilla reptans*, Daisy *Bellis perennis*, Dandelion *Taraxacum officinale*, Great Reedmace *Typha latifolia*, Hemp Agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, Hedge Bindweed *Calystegia sepium*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Horsetail *Equisetum* sp., Marsh Mallow *Althaea officinalis*, Meadow Foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis*, Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, Montbretia *Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora*, Mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*, Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Common Reed *Phragmites australis*, Shaggy Ink Cap fungus *Coprinus comatus*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, Water Mint *Mentha aquatica*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*, Yellow Flag Iris *Iris pseudacorus*.

Fauna observations:

Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*, Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*, Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*, Magpie *Pica pica*, Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* sp. (350m outside of site boundary), Common Frog *Rana temporaria* (100m from site boundary).

Within site: House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*, Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*, Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*, Redwing *Turdus iliacus*, West European Hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*, Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*, Hedge Accentor *Prunella modularis*, Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*, Beautiful Demoiselle *Calopteryx virgo*, European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*, Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*, Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*, Ruddy Darter *Sympetrum sanguineum*, Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*.

White Poplar *Populus alba*, Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, Common Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, Fox *Vulpes vulpes*, Cinnabar *Tyria jacobaeae*, Hemlock Water-dropwort *Oenanthe crocata*, Common Blue Dragonfly *Enallagma cyathigerum*, European Eel *Anguilla anguilla*, Speckled Wood butterfly *Pararge aegeria*, Bream *Abramis brama*, Roach *Rutilus rutilus*, Tench *Tinca tinca*.



**POR-6-S
The Wilderness**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-7-N

SINC name: Manor Farm Fields

Grid reference: SS836780

Area (hectares): 7.15Ha

Survey date: 20th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Improved agricultural fields grazed by sheep with small area of mixed semi-natural scrub woodland with Sycamore, Ash, Field Maple, English Elm and Blackthorn. A semi-natural hedgerow is present around the south-west of the site and traditional stone wall around the north-east, with some plantation scattered trees (Pine and Cherry). Site is recorded as main wintering area for Curlew using Ogmores estuary.

Qualifying features

Wintering population of Curlew (from desk study).

Secondary features

Semi-natural woodland.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide some foraging opportunities for bats.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Sheep grazed pasture.

Japanese Knotweed established on road verge immediately adjacent to site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of invasive non-native Japanese Knotweed on road verge
- To aid restoration of more valuable habitats, no ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats
- Continue with light grazing preferably by cattle or ponies rather than sheep to aid restoration of more valuable habitats, allowing more rough and varied height grassland to develop
- Where possible consider re-instating wet nature of pasture likely to have been present prior to previous drainage to benefit Curlew
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- Consider installing and maintaining bat and bird boxes to provide additional roosting/ nesting sites

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Cherry *Prunus* sp., Dog Rose *Rosa canina*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species:

Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Broad-leaved Plantain *Plantago major*, Common Sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, Creeping Thistle *Cirsium arvense*, Field Bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Common Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Lesser Stitchwort *Stellaria graminea*, Meadow Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, Pine species *Pinus* sp., Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Rosebay Willowherb *Epilobium angustifolium*, Scentless Mayweed *Matricaria maritima*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*.

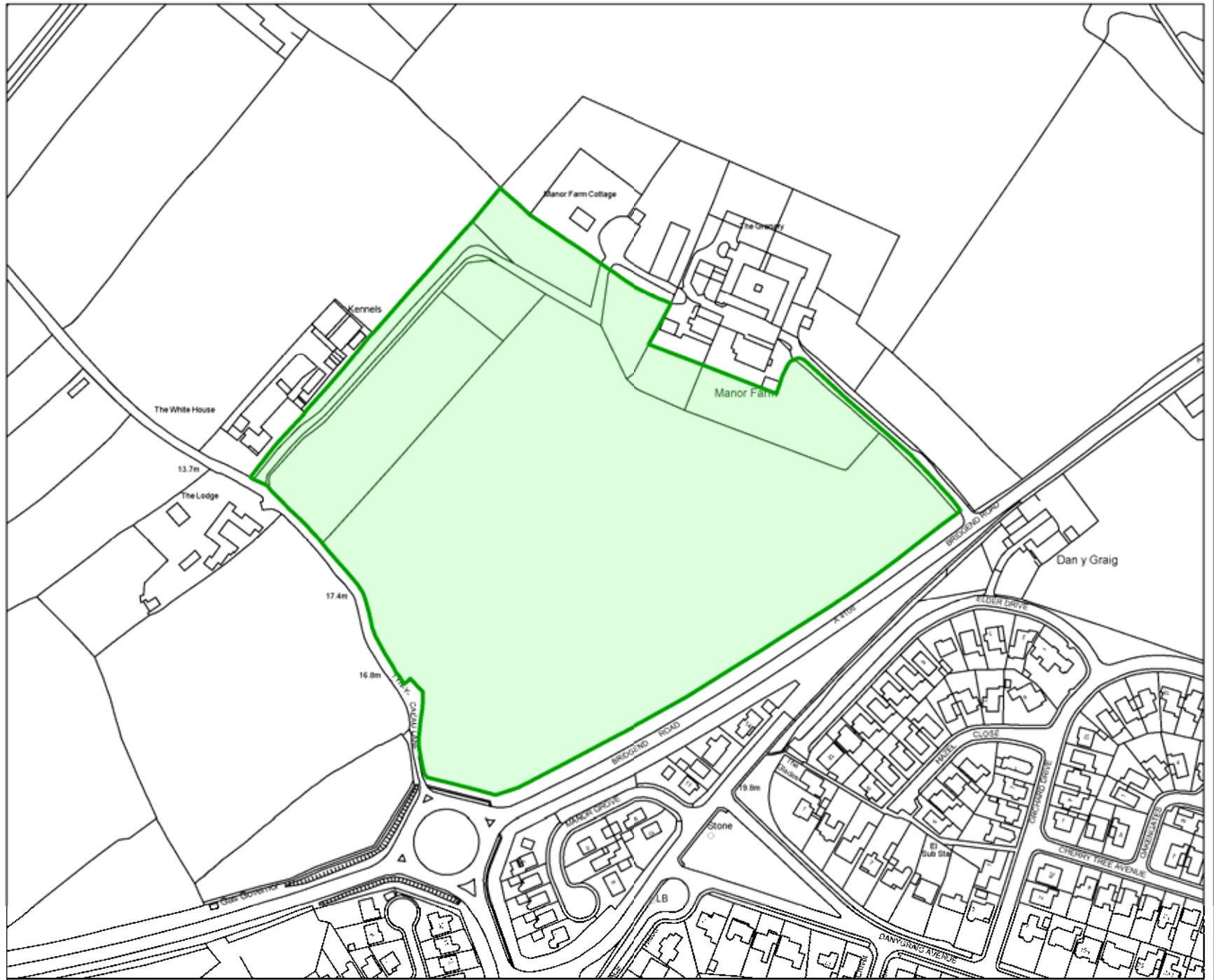
Additional species noted from desk study:

Common Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* (350m outside of site boundary).

Within site: Slow-worm *Anguis fragilis*, Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*, Mole Cricket *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa*, Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*, Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*, Redwing *Turdus iliacus*, Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*, Adder *Vipera berus*, Skylark *Alauda arvensis*, Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*, Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, Small Heath *Coenonympha pamphilus*, Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*, Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*, Dingy Skipper *Erynnis tages*, Fragrant Orchid *Gymnadenia conopsea*, Common Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*, Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*, Powdered Quaker *Orthosia gracilis*, House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Hedge Accentor *Prunella modularis*, Grizzled Skipper *Pyrgus malvae*, Common Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*, Cinnabar *Tyria jacobaeae*.



POR-7-N
Manor Farm Fields



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-8-S

SINC name: Coedargraig

Grid reference: SS841783

Area (hectares): 7.25Ha

Survey date: 14th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

A range of different semi-natural habitats set around a private house and gardens, with semi-natural broadleaved woodland along the road to the south-east of the site, dominated in the canopy by Ash with ground flora including Dog's Mercury, Enchanter's Nightshade, Wood Avens and Wood Spurge as well as ornamental non-native species dominating the ground flora. An area of dense scrub is present at the central, western part of the site with Gorse, Blackthorn, Hawthorn and Bramble as well as occasional Sycamore and Elm. The main central part of the site is covered by a recent house and gardens including historic features, with scattered Ash, Sycamore and conifers towards the north-western boundary. The western and northern parts of the site comprise of agricultural grazing pasture which appeared to be improved. The desk study suggests a much wider range of grassland species indicative of semi-improved/ wet meadows which appear to have been lost from the site since the early 1980s.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species (including those identified from desk study), dense continuous scrub with Gorse dominant in places.

Secondary features

Bluebells (from desk study).

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and potential roosting opportunities for bats.

Potential breeding populations of qualifying bird species recorded historically within the site.

Potential high invertebrate diversity within Gorse scrub.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Ornamental non-native species at the south-east part of the site including Rhododendron, Laurel and Winter Heliotrope.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning/ re-coppicing as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- To aid restoration of more valuable habitats, no ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats
- Continue with light grazing preferably by cattle or ponies rather than sheep to aid restoration of more valuable habitats
- Where possible consider re-instating wet nature of pasture likely to have been present prior to previous drainage
- Consider installing and maintaining bat and bird boxes to provide additional roosting/ nesting sites

- Consider control of non-native ornamental plants within woodland areas

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, European Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Cherry *Prunus* sp., English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Gorse *Ulex europaeus*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Laurel sp., Rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Wych Elm *Ulmus glabra*.

Ground flora species:

Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, Common Mouse-ear *Cerastium fontanum*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Meadow Foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Wood Spurge *Euphorbia amygdaloides*, Winter Heliotrope *Petasites fragrans*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*.

Fauna observations:

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Fox *Vulpes vulpes*, House Martin *Delichon urbicum*, Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas*, Large White *Pieris brassicae*, Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina* Robin *Erithacus rubecula*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Within site: Slow-worm *Anguis fragilis*, Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*, Mole Cricket *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa*, Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*, Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*, Adder *Vipera berus*, Red Kite *Milvus milvus*, Redwing *Turdus iliacus*, Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*, Skylark *Alauda arvensis*, Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*, Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, Small Heath *Coenonympha pamphilus* Cuckoo *Cuculus cuculus*, Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*, Dingy Skipper *Erynnis tages*, Fragrant Orchid *Gymnadenia conopsea*, Common Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*, Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*, Powdered Quaker *Orthosia gracilis*, House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Hedge Accentor *Prunella modularis*, Grizzled Skipper *Pyrgus malvae*, Common Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, Cinnabar *Tyria jacobaeae*, Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*, Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*, Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-9=S

SINC name: Newton Point

Grid reference: SS834762

Area (hectares): 7.16ha

Survey date: 11th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Rocky intertidal outcrop covering a significant area and bordered to the west by sand and to the east by shingle and smaller areas of rock. There is a small area of grassland with the majority of the site comprising of limestone rocks sloping gently away from the land with small crags and crevices, coastal plants among the rock towards the land include Sea Aster and Sea Spurge.

Qualifying features

Unmodified semi-natural intertidal rock.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Generally unmodified rocky shore bordered by car park and large caravan park, with some localised tipping and evidence of dog walking on site, including rubble which may be to provide a barrier between the site and the car park.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control measures for litter and dog-fouling
- Remove tipped waste
- Consider removal of rubble or future use of more natural locally typical rock where suitable
- Consider installing interpretation of the site's wildlife and its value at this busy site

Additional information:

A large amount of the rock was covered by the tide at the time of survey.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Flora species:

Rock Samphire *Crithmum maritimum*, Sea Aster *Aster tripolium*, Sea Spurge *Euphorbia paralias*, Sea Mayweed *Tripleurospermum maritimum*, Wall Barley *Hordeum murinum*.

Fauna observations: Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

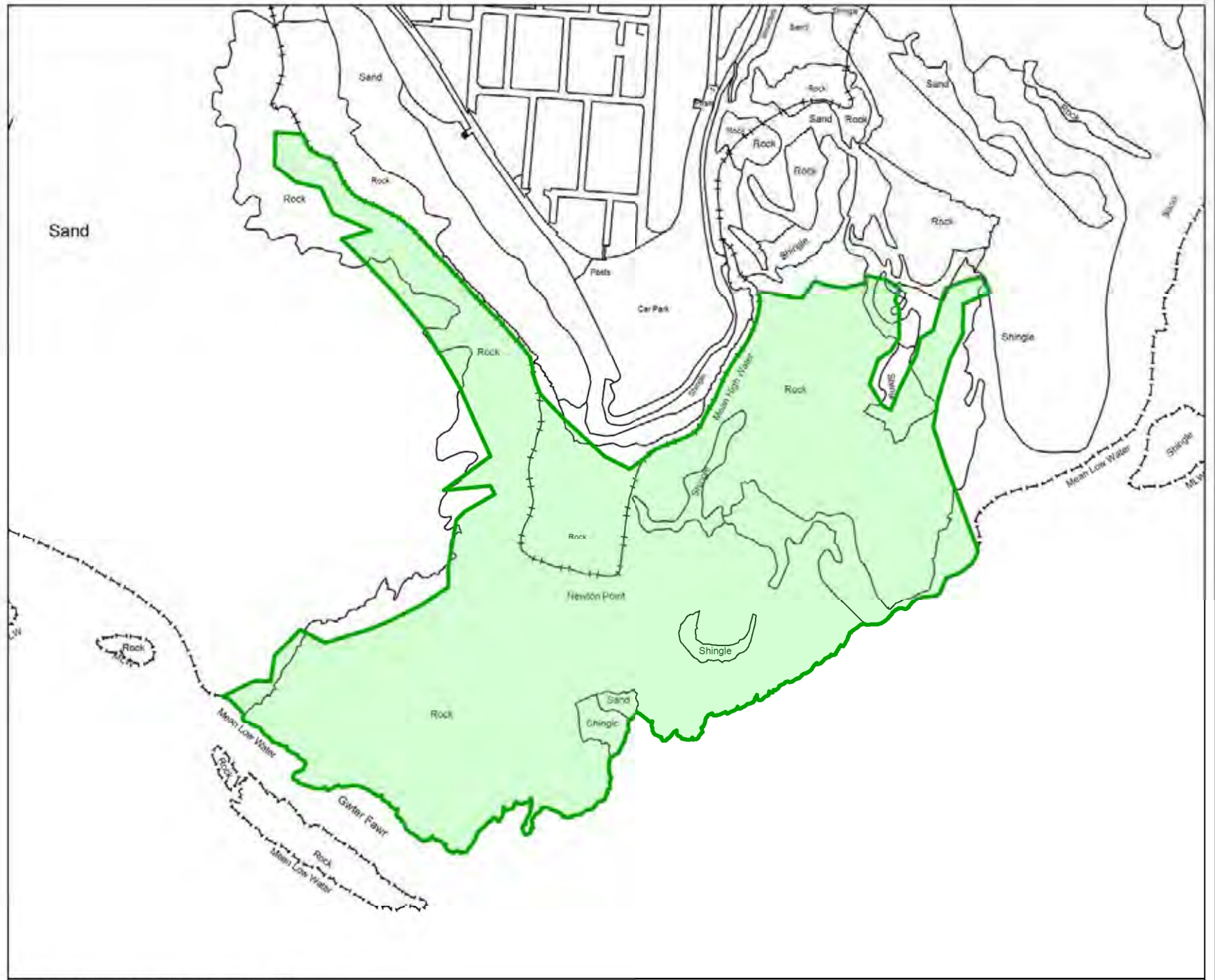
Common Porpoise *Phocoena phocoena* (450m outside site boundary).

Within site: Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*, Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*, Serrated Wrack *Fucus serratus*.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* (100m from site boundary).



POR-9-S
Newton Point



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-10-S

SINC name: The Beacons

Grid reference: SS845791

Area (hectares): 5.21ha

Survey date: 27th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Coniferous woodland with Pine trees and occasional broad-leaved trees particularly Sycamore, with occasional woodland ground flora and scrub (Bramble, Hawthorn) on woodland edge.

Qualifying features

None identified other than as a connecting unit of mixed habitat including woodland and scrub together with the adjacent SINC to the west.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide nesting opportunities for birds including birds of prey and potentially Goshawk which was observed perching in a tree which may have a nest in it.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Site within Limestone and High Purity Limestone Safeguarding Zone (LDP). Low level management, stock-fenced from adjacent agricultural land.

Recommendations for future management:

- Breeding bird survey to be carried out to inform other future management recommendations
- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure, allowing replacement of at least some conifers as appropriate with naturally regenerated native woodland species and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- Consider installation and maintenance of a range of bird and bat boxes as appropriate

Additional information:

Adjacent SINC site POR-3-M Pant-y-Hyl lies immediately west of this site so that the two sites together form a large linked area of mixed habitats including native woodland and scrub.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Pine species *Pinus* sp., Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species:

Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Hart's-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Common Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina*,

Fauna observations:

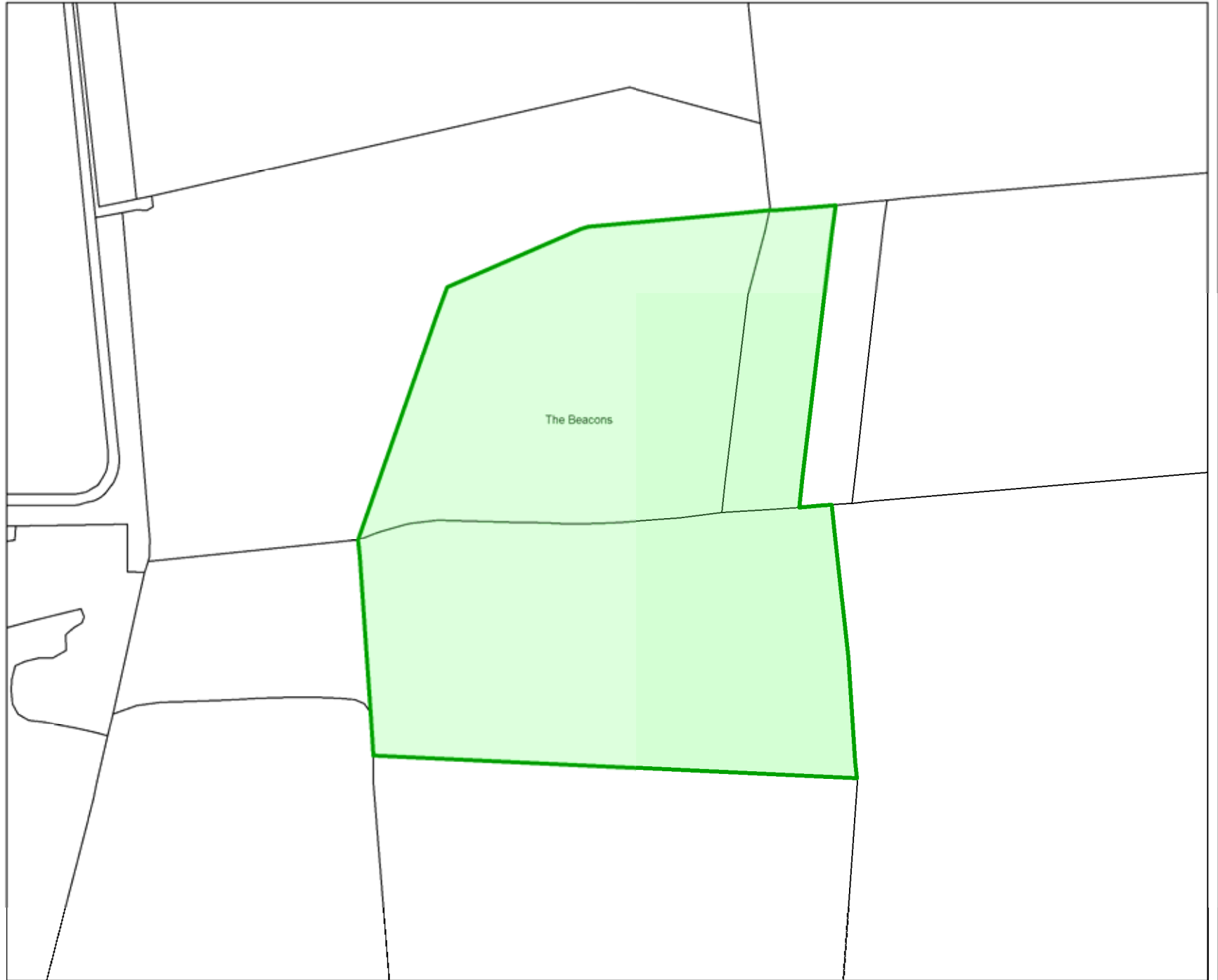
Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*, Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*, European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*.

Additional species noted from desk study: Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*, Redwing *Turdus iliacus*, Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*, Sylark *Alauda arvensis*, Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*, Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*, European Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*, Hedge Accentor *Prunella modularis*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*, Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* (250m outside of site boundary).



**BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW**

**POR-10-S
The Beacons**



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 02/08/2013

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Cities Revealed Aerial Photography copyright, The GeoInformation Group (2013)

Scale 1:2,500 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-11-N

SINC name: Nottage Court Wood

Grid reference: SS820784

Area (hectares): 4.91

Survey date: 20th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Mixed semi-natural broadleaved woodland on an ancient woodland site within the centre of the site, with cattle grazed improved grassland areas surrounding this. The woodland is dominated by Ash in the canopy with ground flora including Herb Robert, Hart's-tongue Fern and Wood Avens. Hedgerows around the central part of the site are dominated by Hawthorn with some scrub with Elm and Ash at the north-western site boundary, adjacent to the historical covered stone well with ferns.

Qualifying features

Ancient woodland recorded in the Ancient Woodland Inventories.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Woodland fenced from pasture areas which are grazed by sheep within main part of the site. North-west part of the site, containing St. David's Well is open to adjacent lane which cuts through northern part of the site. Central woodland areas fenced with recent tree planting in the south-east part of the site.

Recommendations for future management:

- Local woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats to aid restoration to more valuable habitats
- Continue light grazing with cattle or ponies rather than sheep being preferable to benefit biodiversity

Additional information:

Site partly covered by Conservation Area and High Purity Limestone Resource Safeguarding Zone.

Historical St. David's stone well within north-western part of the site.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, European Beech *Fagus sylvatica*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Silver Birch *Betula pendula*, Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species:

Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*, Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens* Creeping Thistle *Cirsium arvense*, Daisy *Bellis perennis*, Great Willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*, Ground Ivy *Glechoma hederacea*, Hard Fern *Blechnum spicant*, Hart's-tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Common Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Lords-and-Ladies *Arum maculatum*, Meadow Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, Common Mouse-ear *Cerastium fontanum* Pineappleweed *Matricaria discoidea*, Common Polypody Fern *Polypodium vulgare*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Spear Thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*.

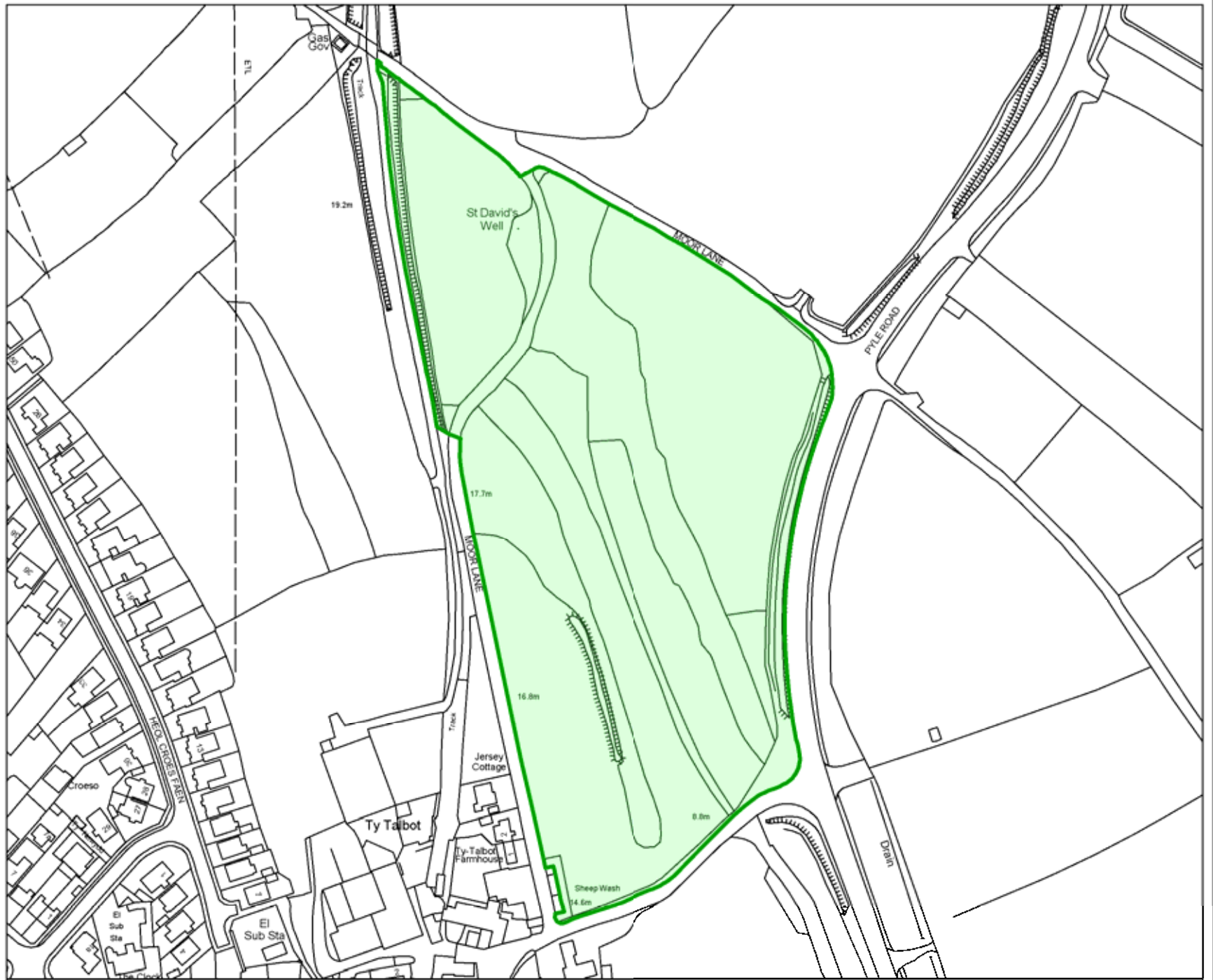
Fauna observations: Robin *Erithacus rubecula*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* sp. (350m from site boundary), Common Frog *Rana temporaria*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (150m from site boundary).



POR-11-N
Nottage Court Wood



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-12-S

SINC name: Rych Point

Grid reference: SS827763

Area (hectares): 5.53

Survey date: 14th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Rocky intertidal outcrop on the end of a land point made up of dunes with sandy beach to either side. Limestone rocks on a shallow slope away from the land with sizeable rock pools and crags.

Qualifying features

Unmodified semi-natural intertidal rock.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Generally unmodified rocky shore bordering a grassy point with some grass clippings and tipped rubble on landward side which may be to provide a barrier between the site and the land.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control measures for litter and dog-fouling
- Remove tipped waste
- Consider removal of rubble or future use of more natural locally typical rock where suitable
- Consider installing interpretation of the site's wildlife and its value

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Flora species:

Buckshorn Plantain *Plantago coronopus*, Rock Samphire *Crithmum maritimum*, Sea Spurge *Euphorbia paralias*, Sea Mayweed *Tripleurospermum maritimum*.

Fauna observations:

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone corone*, Common Limpet *Patella vulgata*, Edible Crab *Cancer pagurus* Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*, Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*, Large White butterfly *Pieris brassicae*, Meadow Brown butterfly *Maniola jurtina*, Prawn *Palaemon* sp., Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Common Porpoise *Phocoena phocoena* (150m outside site boundary).

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* (100m from site boundary).

Within site: Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, Honeycomb worm *Sabellaria alveolata*, Common Pill Woodlouse *Armadillidium vulgare*, Brown centipede *Lithobius (Lithobius) forficatus*.



POR-12-S
Rych Point



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-13-N

SINC name: Pwll-y-waun

Grid reference: SS829776

Area (hectares): 4.58Ha

Survey date: 20th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Mixed semi-natural habitats around a lake which is used for private fishing, with associated parts of the site along the south and east banks containing areas of wet woodland dominated by Willows with some Alder, thorns and occasional ornamental trees around the lake. The lake is well used by ducks, geese and other water birds with a vegetated island and undisturbed inaccessible areas offering good shelter and potential nesting areas to these species. Horse grazed marshy grassland to the east of the site contains a range of typical species including Meadowsweet, Flag Iris, Amphibious Bistort and Selfheal with associated scrub with thorn species, Dog Rose and Bramble.

Qualifying features

Open water, semi-natural wet woodland, marshy grassland.

Secondary features

Scrub.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Amenity lake with private fishing (Porthcawl Anglers Association), this part of the site is Common Land. Grassland areas grazed by horses.

Recommendations for future management:

- No ploughing, draining, re-seeding or fertiliser input to grassland habitats
- Continue with light grazing by ponies as existing, with these or cattle rather than sheep being favourable for conservation of grassland habitats
- Consider installing and maintaining bat and bird boxes to provide additional roosting/ nesting sites
- Consider installing interpretation of the site's wildlife and its value at this busy site

Additional information:

Partly owned by BCBC.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Dog Rose *Rosa canina*, Elder *Sambucus nigra*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Grey Willow *Salix cinerea*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Weeping Willow *Salix babylonica*.

Ground flora species:

Amphibious Bistort *Persicaria amphibia*, Betony *Stachys officinalis*, Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, Broad-leaved Dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, Broad-leaved Plantain *Plantago major*, Cleavers *Galium aparine*, Common Agrimony *Agrimonia eupatoria*, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, Common Mouse-ear *Cerastium fontanum*, Common Polypody Fern *Polypodium vulgare*, Common Sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, Hawkweed *Hieracium* sp., Hedge Bindweed *Calystegia sepium*, Marsh Thistle *Cirsium palustre*, Meadow Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Ribwort Plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, Self-heal *Prunella vulgaris*, Silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, Water Mint *Mentha aquatica*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*, Yellow Flag Iris *Iris pseudacorus*.

Fauna observations:

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*, Fox *Vulpes vulpes*, House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*, Magpie *Pica pica*, Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*, Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*, Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*, Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*, Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Common Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, Noctule bat *Nyctalus noctula* (350m outside of site boundary).

Within site: Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*, Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*, Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*, House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*, Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*, Firecrest *Regulus ignicapillus*, Redwing *Turdus iliacus*, Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*, Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*, European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*, Common Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*, Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, Rustic Hoplostrid *Hoplostridina blanda*, Lackey *Malacosoma neustria*, Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*, Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*, Common Swift *Apus apus*, Cuckoo Flower *Cardamine pratensis*, Common Sedge *Carex nigra*, Common Spike-rush *Eleocharis palustris*, marsh Bedstraw *Galium palustre*, Floating Sweet-grass *Glyceria fluitans*, Tufted Forget-me-not *Myosotis laxa*, Reed Canary Grass *Phalaris arundinacea*, Common Fleabane *Pulicaria dysenterica*, Lesser Spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, Marsh Speedwell *Veronica scutellata*.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-14-M

SINC name: Grove Common

Grid reference: SS826794

Area (hectares): 1.75ha

Survey date: 22nd September 2011 Surveyor: Abbey Sanders

Summary description

Dense scrub dominated by Hawthorn with Blackthorn and occasional Gorse, areas of Bramble, occasional English Elm and Elder. The southern part of the site in particular is over rough ground with more open areas bordering the roadside to the south-east of the site and some non-native plants establishing on this edge of the site.

Qualifying features

Dense continuous scrub and continuous Bracken.

Secondary features

Establishing semi-natural broadleaf woodland through succession from scrub.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Some non-native plants; Japanese Knotweed and Buddleia, no recent active management noted.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of invasive non-native species including Japanese Knotweed and Buddleia
- Localised woodland management by thinning/ coppicing as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- Remove localised areas of scrub to create sunny open areas restoring a mosaic of grassland and scrub together
- Localised woodland management by thinning/ coppicing as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- Consider installing and maintaining bat and bird boxes to provide additional roosting/ nesting sites

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Gorse *Ulex europaeus*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species:

Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Hart's-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Greater Burdock *Arctium lappa*, Hedge Bindweed *Calystegia sepium*, Hemp Agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, Common Honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*.

Fauna observations: Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*, European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, Robin *Erithacus rubecula*, Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* sp. (350m from site boundary), Wood Calamint *Clinopodium menthifolium* (150m from site boundary), Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*, Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*, Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* (150m from site boundary).



**BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW**

**POR-14-M
Grove Common**



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 02/08/2013

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Cities Revealed Aerial Photography copyright, The GeoInformation Group (2013)

Scale 1:2,500 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-15-S

SINC name: Trafalgar Wood

Grid reference: SS816775

Area (hectares): 0.46ha

Survey date: 20th September 2011 **Surveyor: Abbey Sanders**

Summary description

Small semi-natural broadleaved woodland with Sycamore dominating the canopy and a small central area of Ash, Hawthorn, Blackthorn and English Elm are also present to a much lesser degree, particularly to the southern more scrubby part of the site. The site is well used for informal recreation with access readily available from adjacent housing and sports areas, with some tree damage apparent. The ground flora is relatively sparse with Redcurrant, Herb Robert and Wood Avens noted although the disturbance to the site may contribute to the apparent low biodiversity. Tree holes are present and the woodland is isolated from similar habitat making it a valuable habitat locally.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland with an assemblage of woodland indicator species although the diversity of these was low, scrub.

Secondary features

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging opportunities for bats. Tree holes may offer bat roosting as well as bird nesting opportunities.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Low level management, open to adjacent playing field and housing with informal recreation access, litter and some tree damage are present. Non-native species including Japanese Knotweed. Woodland biodiversity would benefit from treatment of invasive species and fencing where possible.

Recommendations for future management:

- Control of non-native, invasive species including Japanese Knotweed
- Creation of gaps in canopy through selective removal of Sycamore in particular followed by ongoing woodland management by thinning as needed, to maintain good canopy structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora
- Consider fencing off at least part of the site to reduce disturbance leaving the remainder open to public access
- Consider the installation and maintenance of a range of bird and bat boxes to provide additional nesting and roosting opportunities

Additional information:

Owned by BCBC, TPOs on trees within site.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Laurel species, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species:

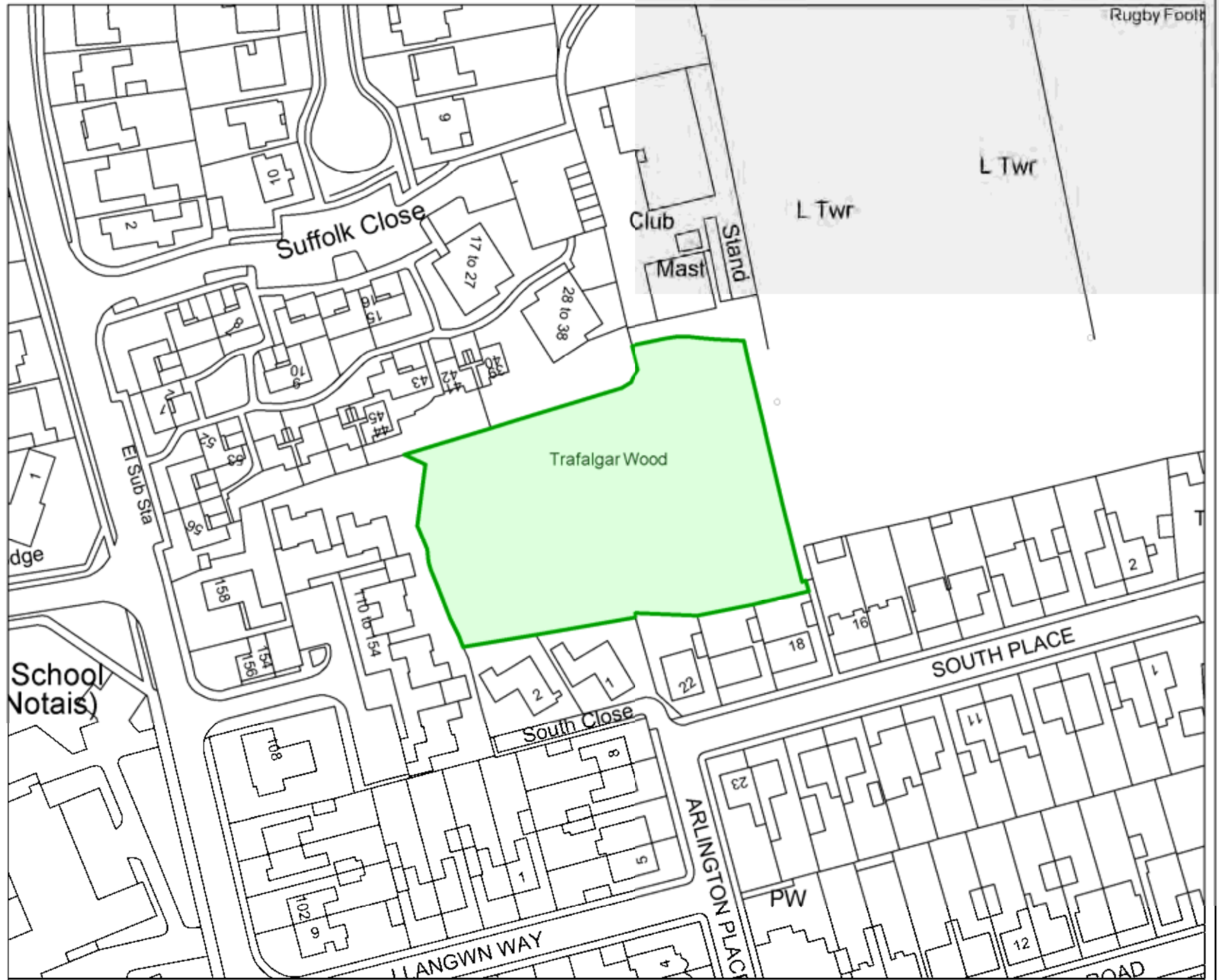
Broad-leaved Dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica*, Montbretia *Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora*, Redcurrant *Ribes rubrum*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Common Frog *Rana temporaria*, House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (150m from site boundary).



POR-15-S
Trafalgar Wood



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council

SINC number: POR-16-S

SINC name: Pink Bay Pond

Grid reference: SS801792

Area (hectares) 0.10ha

Survey date: 21st September 2011

Surveyor: Abbey Sanders

Summary description

Semi-natural pond with emergent vegetation including Grey Willow to the rear of the pond, dominant Great Reedmace and Branched Bur-weed and Marsh Willowherb, with no open water at the time of survey, the centre of the pond being wet and the edges with no water at surface level. Terrestrial species invading the drier margins of the pond include Yarrow and Silverweed. The pond appears to have deteriorated by the invasion of Reedmace significantly since a previous pond survey in 2001 which is likely to be a significant disadvantage to the three species of newt (including Great Crested Newt) previously recorded at the site.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural pond with good quality water and features assessed during pond survey (2001) although during 2011 no open water was present due to lower water table and domination by emergent plants.

Secondary features

Great Crested Newt presence (2010), presence of a reptile species (Grass Snake).

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide foraging opportunities for bats.

Potential good population/ breeding Great Crested Newt.

May support four or more amphibian species (all three newt species have been recorded).

Potential good population of Grass Snake.

Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)

Relatively unmanaged pond on the edge of a golf course with associated semi-improved rough grassland, over dominated and dried out by invading Reedmace, the clearance of which would be of great benefit to the pond and encourage its sustained use by newts and potentially other amphibians.

Recommendations for future management:

- Clearance of Reedmace and associated silt from within the pond, potentially by sensitive use of a small mechanical digger preferably between the months of October and February where possible to minimise disturbance to wildlife to reinstate lower pond level suitable to collect open water
- Monitor development of scrub and other emergent vegetation and control as necessary in the longer term to provide some open un-shaded water together with diverse in-pond plants suitable for wildlife including newt egg-laying.
- Retain existing semi-natural rough grassland buffer around the pond through existing mowing regime
- Consider installing habitat piles/ 'hibernacula' (which can be made following widely available designs based on piles of logs, stones and other natural materials) for reptiles

and amphibians close to the pond

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Grey Willow *Salix cinerea*, Dewberry *Rubus caesius*.

Ground flora species:

Black Horehound *Ballota nigra*, Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, Branched Bur-reed *Sparganium erectum*, Curled Dock *Rumex crispus*, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, Creeping Cinquefoil *Potentilla repens*, Great Reedmace *Typha latifolia*, Hedge Bindweed *Calystegia sepium*, Lesser Stitchwort *Stellaria graminea*, Marsh Pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, Marsh Horsetail *Equisetum palustre*, Marsh Willowherb *Epilobium palustre*, Mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*, Silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*.

Fauna observations:

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*, Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*, Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*, Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Within site: Great Crested Newt *Triturus cristatus*, Lesser Marshwort *Apium inundatum*, Nodding Bur-marigold *Bidens cernua*, Creeping Bent *Agrostis stolonifera*, Water Plantain *Alisma plantago-aquatica*, Fool's Water-cress *Apium nodiflorum*, Sea Club-rush *Bolboschoenus maritimus*, Common Sedge, *Carex nigra*, Fragile Stonewort *Chara globularis*, Common Spike-rush *Eleocharis palustris*, Short-fruited Willowherb *Epilobium obscurum*, Marsh Bedstraw *Galium palustre*, Floating Sweet-grass *Glyceria fluitans*, Marsh Pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, Jointed Rush *Juncus articulatus*, Common Duckweed *Lemna minor*, Ragged Robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi*, Tufted Forget-me-not *Myosotis laxa*, Broad-leaved Pondweed *Potamogeton natans*, Lesser Spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, Bittersweet *Solanum dulcamara*.

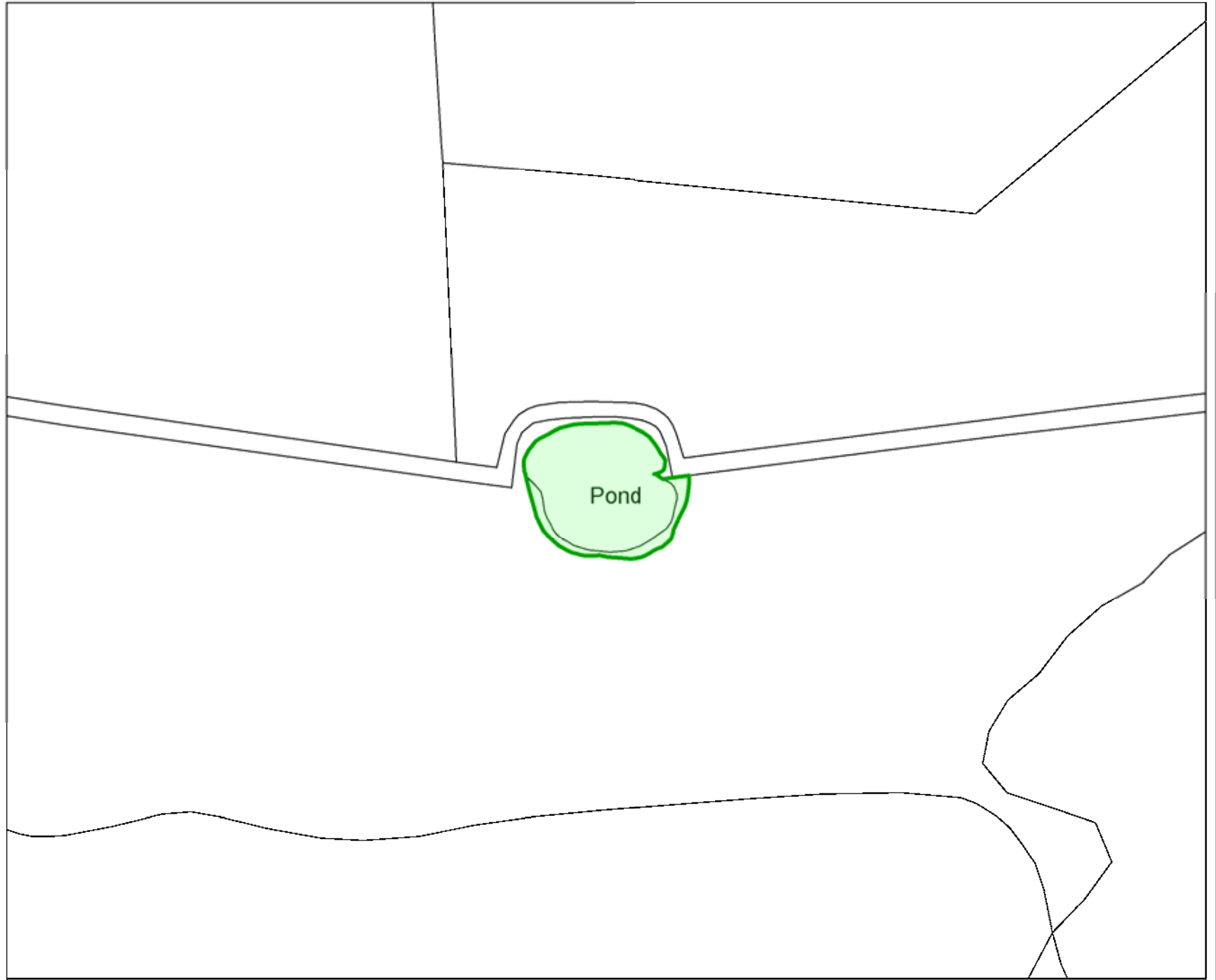
Palmate Newt *Lissotriton helveticus*, Smooth Newt *Lissotriton vulgaris*, Grass Snake *Natrix natrix*, (100m from site boundary).

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*, Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix* (250m from site boundary).



**BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW**

POR-16-S
Pink Bay Pond



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 02/08/2013

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council	
SINC number: POR-17-S	SINC name: Moor Lane Pond
Grid reference: SS815791	Area (hectares): 0.04ha
Survey date: 22nd September 2011 Surveyor: Abbey Sanders	
Summary description	
Seasonally dry pond developing into wet woodland with Grey Willow being extremely dominant within the vegetation, surrounded by semi-natural broadleaved scrub woodland, with tree species including Alder, Sycamore, English Elm, Hawthorn and Blackthorn.	
Qualifying features	
Semi-natural pond and wet woodland.	
Secondary features	
Scrub.	
Potential value/ unconfirmed features	
Great Crested Newt, with a record 100m approx. from the site, would be likely to use the site if it was in a suitable condition.	
Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)	
Pond is completely overgrown with Grey Willow with no water at the time of survey and would benefit greatly from tree clearance and potentially de-silting. Fenced from adjacent field in places.	
<i>Recommendations for future management:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove Willow growth from the pond itself and areas immediately adjacent to open the canopy above the pond and adjacent area between the pond and adjacent field. • Consider mechanical removal of silt from within the pond to restore open water area, this should be carried out between October and February inclusive where possible to minimise disturbance to wildlife. • Monitor development of scrub and other emergent vegetation and control as necessary in the longer term to provide some open un-shaded water together with diverse in-pond plants suitable for wildlife including newt egg-laying. • Diversify woodland structure by selective thinning of some trees to open up the canopy providing more diverse height and species within the tree, shrub and ground flora layers 	

Additional information:

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Woodland canopy and shrub species:

Grey Willow *Salix cinerea* dominant within pond area. Surrounding woodland also; Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Spindle *Euonymus europaeus*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Ground flora species:

Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, Hart's-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Hedge Bindweed *Calystegia sepium*, Old Man's Beard *Clematis vitalba*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica*.

Fauna observations: Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*.

Additional species noted from desk study:

Great Crested Newt *Triturus cristatus* (100m from site boundary), Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* sp., (350m from site boundary), Common Toad *Bufo bufo*, Palmate Newt *Lissotriton helveticus*, Smooth Newt *Lissotriton vulgaris*, Common Frog *Rana temporaria* (200m from site boundary) Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* (150m from site boundary).

From site: Common Duckweed *Lemna minor*, Common Water Plantain *Alisma plantago-aquatica*, Intermediate Water-starwort *Callitriche hamulata*.



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

POR-17-S
Moor Lane Pond



Map generated by: AQ
Date: 02/08/2013

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Scale 1:1,250 @ A4

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council	
SINC number: SBM-1-M	SINC name: Cefn Hirgoed
Grid reference: SS 924 834	Area (hectares): 227.75
Survey date: 27/09/2011	Surveyor name: Rebecca East
<p>Summary description</p> <p>A very large site comprised of common land made up of acidic grassland, small areas of wet heath, species rich marshy grassland, bracken, scrub and small areas of woodland and plantation.</p>	
<p>Qualifying features</p> <p>Purple moor grass and rush pasture.</p> <p>Bracken.</p> <p>Acidic grassland.</p>	
<p>Secondary features</p> <p>Scrub.</p> <p>Native woodland.</p>	
<p>Potential value/ unconfirmed features</p> <p>The diverse habitats and large areas of habitat available make this site likely to support many species. The grassland could support a variety of invertebrates, birds including ground nesting birds such as skylark, reptiles such as adder, and small mammals such as brown hare and possibly water vole. The scrub and woodland areas are likely to support other types of birds and small mammals.</p>	
<p>Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)</p> <p>Management of the grasslands and bracken areas appears minimal, with small numbers of cattle and horses grazing the site. The bracken areas are quite extensive and appear to be spreading into the acidic grassland particularly. Some areas of the site are in reasonably good conservation state whereas others are not. The main management recommendation will be to roll or spray the bracken, to control its spread onto neighbouring habitats and to reduce its vigour and allow a more diverse ground flora where a bracken habitat is desired. The whole site could benefit from slightly greater numbers of grazing cattle with the maintenance of soil moisture levels and water quality.</p> <p><i>Recommendations for future management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of bracken to prevent reduction in floristic diversity of grasslands. • Maintain grazing at low levels but with slightly higher stock density. 	
<p>Additional information:</p> <p>This area of common land has been the subject of a study of the habitats and species present and the information gathered is thought to be more detailed than that of the SINC review survey. The information from this existing survey work should be included in this data sheet.</p>	

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Fleabane *Pulicaria dysenterica*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, glaucous sedge *Carex flacca*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, marsh violet *Viola palustris*, marsh pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, sphagnum species *Sphagnum* sp, round leaved water crowfoot *Ranunculus omiophyllus*, heath speedwell *Veronica officinalis*, heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, hard rush *Juncus inflexus*, water mint *Mentha aquatica*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, ragged robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, star sedge *Carex echinata*, cotton grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum*, green ribbed sedge *Carex binervis*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, quaking grass *Briza media*, water pepper *Persicaria hydropiper*, water purslane *Lythrum portula*, mat grass *Nardus stricta*, flote grass *Glyceria fluitans*, bog pondweed *Potamogeton polygonifolius*, branched bur-reed *Sparganium erectum*, marsh willowherb *Epilobium paulstre*.

Woodland and scrub species

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, black poplar species *Populus nigra* sp, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, yellow pimpernel *Lysimachia nemorum*, remote sedge *Carex remota*.

Faunal species

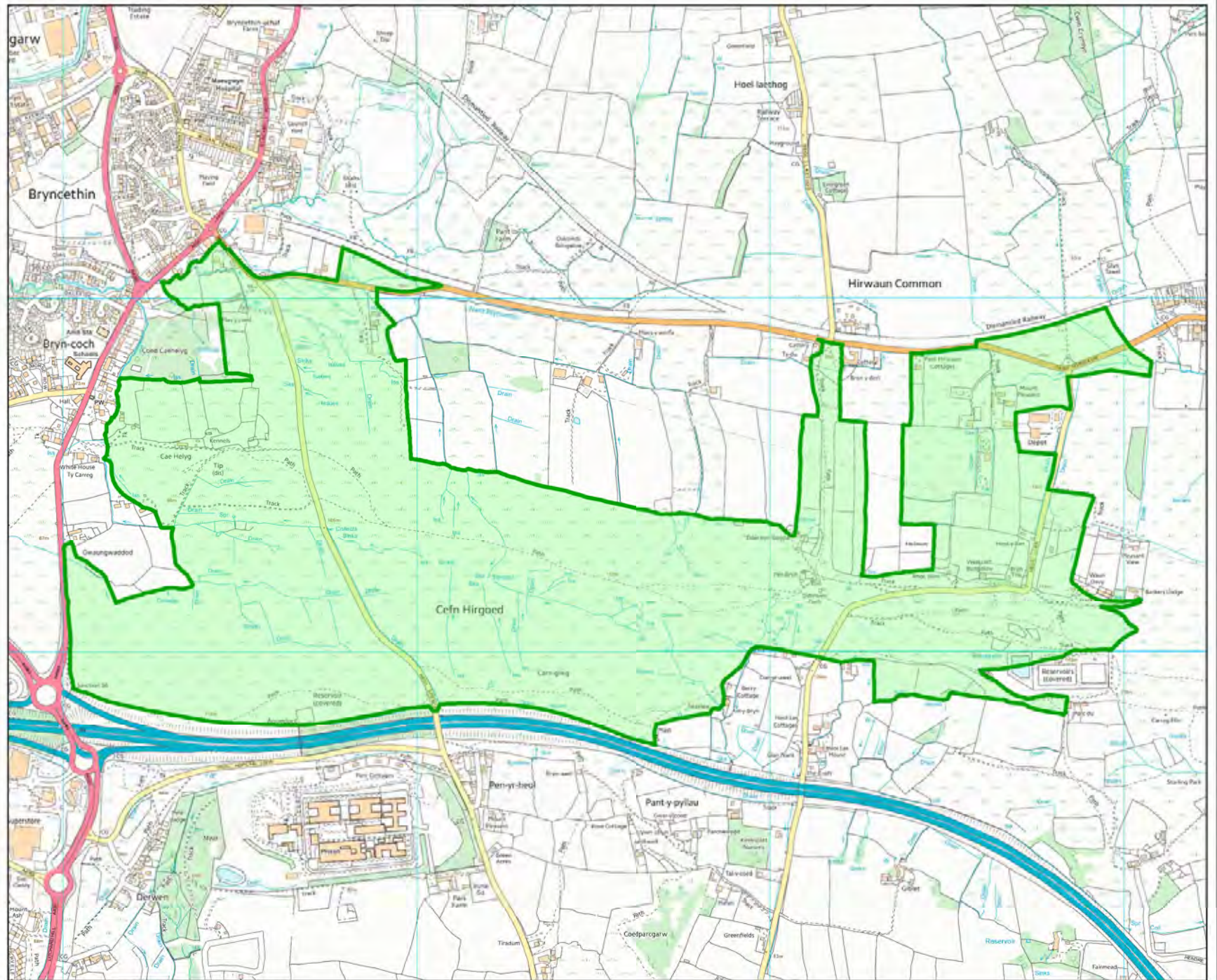
Meadow pipit, common lizard, mole, swallow.

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Red kite, common frog, fieldfare, common lizard, grey dagger, knot grass, skylark, green brindled crescent, tree pipit, linnet, small heath, small square spot, reed bunting, autumnal rustic, kestrel, ghost moth, brown hare, dot moth, broom moth, oblique carpet, house sparrow, hedge accentor, bullfinch, large wainscot, shaded broad bar, white ermine, buff ermine, marsh stitchwort, anomalous, starling, hedge rustic, blood vein, song thrush, cinnabar, oak hook-tip, willow, spectacle, swift, grey heron, green hairstreak, goldfinch, siskin, golden-ringed dragonfly, raven, house martin, coot, grey shoulder knot, keeled skimmer, chiffchaff, whinchat, garden warbler, slender ground hopper, round winged muslin, blackbird, barred willow.



**SBM-1-M
Cefn Hirgoed**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council	
SINC number: SBM-2-N	SINC name: Cefn Hirgoed
Grid reference: SS837834	Area (hectares): 17.97
Survey date: 27/09/2011	Surveyor: Rebecca East
Summary description	
An area of common land close to Sarn with acid and marshy grassland, scrub and bracken.	
Qualifying features	
Purple moor grass and rush pasture.	
Secondary features	
Scrub.	
Potential value/ unconfirmed features	
A local resident with a keen interest in birds reported stonechat, willow warbler, reed bunting, goldfinch, tree pipit, and high brown fritillary.	
The site has potential for several amphibian and reptile species, small mammals and a variety of invertebrates and birds.	
Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)	
The area is grazed by horses, very tightly in some places, as the horses may preferentially graze the softer grasses, while scrub is left unmanaged. The site is used regularly for informal recreation activities.	
The site also contains Himalayan balsam which may have implications for the biodiversity value of the site, if it is left unmanaged.	
<i>Recommendations for future management:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of scrub. • Reduction in stock density to prevent over-grazing and increase the floristic diversity. • Control of invasive species. 	
Additional information:	
Access on to the site is easy via well used paths.	
This site has been the subject of a detailed study of the commons habitats and species. The information from that survey is thought to contain more information than gathered for the SINC review and should be included in this data sheet.	

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

Grassland flora

Fleabane *Pulicaria dysenterica*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, water pepper *Polygonum hydropiper*, water mint *Mentha aquatica*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, compact rush *Juncus conglomerata*, soft rush *Juncus effusus*, red bartsia *Odontites vernus*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, green ribbed sedge *Carex binervis*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, cross leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, sphagnum species *Sphagnum* sp., carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, hard rush *Juncus inflexus*, hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, fool's watercress *Apium nodiflorum*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, great reedmace *Typha latifolia*, wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris*, round leaved water crowfoot *Ranunculus omiophyllus*.

Woodland and scrub species

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, common honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*.

Faunal species

Green woodpecker, common lizard, blackbird, meadow pipit, bank vole, robin, red admiral, swallow, comma.

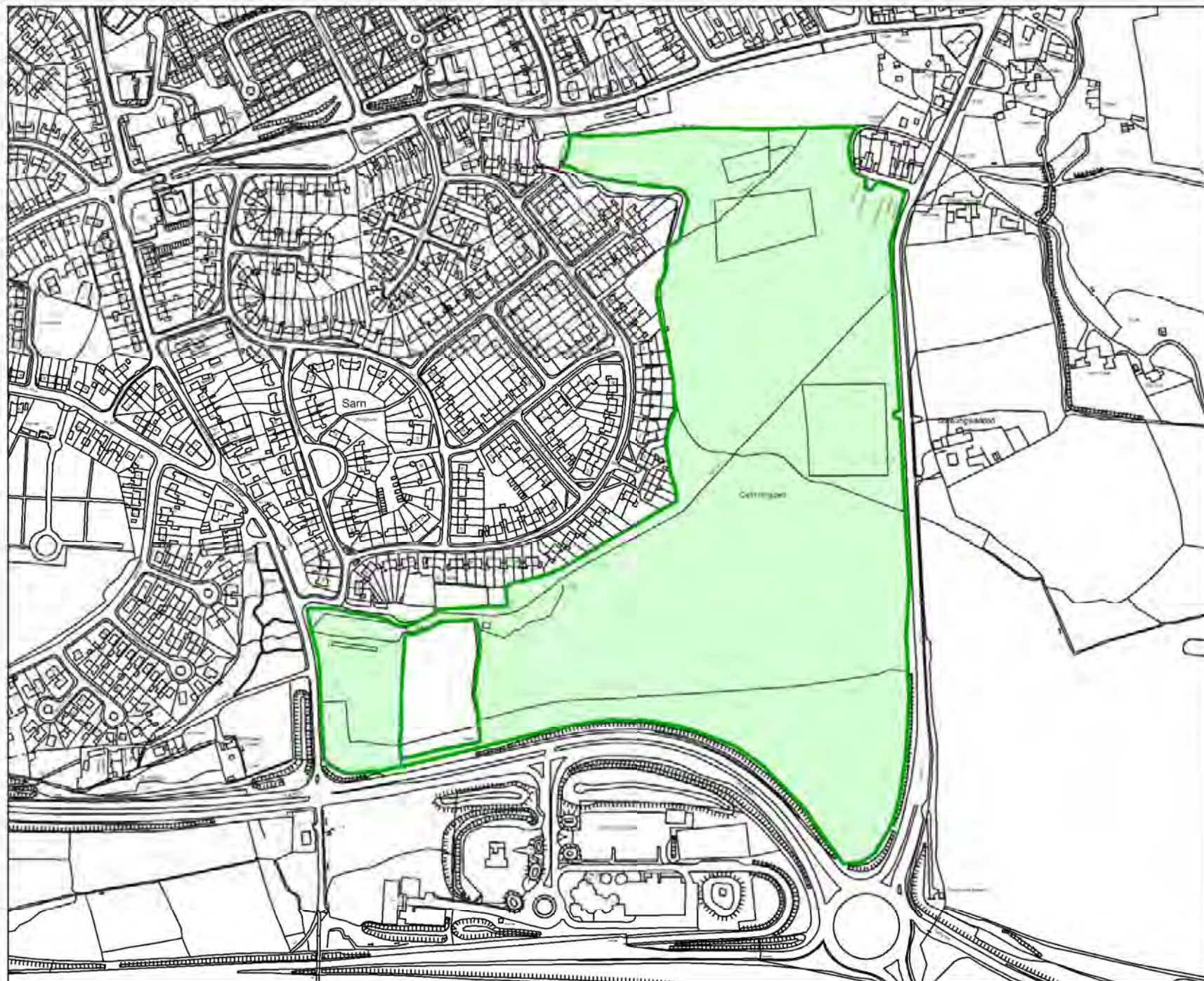
Faunal species from data search (0m)

None.



BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW

SBM-2-N
Cefn Hirgoed



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Date: 15/08/2013

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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council	
SINC number: SBM-3-N	SINC name: Pant Farm/Hirwaun Common
Grid reference: SS 919 841	Area (hectares): 10.39
Survey date: 26/09/2011	UDP policy reference:
Summary description	
<p>The site is made up predominantly of rush dominated pasture, with areas of dense gorse scrub and bracken. Wet ditches and small watercourses are also present.</p>	
Qualifying features	
<p>Mosaic habitats.</p>	
Secondary features	
Potential value/ unconfirmed features	
<p>The site could be of value to common amphibian and reptile species particularly, but also to a diversity of invertebrates, small mammals and ground nesting birds. The site is likely to provide good hunting areas for birds of prey.</p>	
Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)	
<p>The common land is grazed un-intensively by sheep and ponies and is in reasonable condition. However species diversity could be greater and scrub may need to be managed to prevent it spreading and compromising the grasslands. The bracken area in particular has become very dense and could benefit from rolling or spraying to reduce its vigour and encourage a more diverse ground flora. Scrub control would also be important along with laying of hedges. Some cutting of the rush pasture may be helpful to reduce the nutrient levels but the soil water levels must be maintained rather than having the site drainage improved.</p> <p><i>Recommendations for future management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with light grazing, ideally by horses or cattle, without sheep. • Lay hedges and management of scrub to increase the floristic diversity of the grasslands. 	

Additional information:

With other common land in the borough, this site had been surveyed in detail for its habitats and species. The data gathered for that study is likely to be more detailed than gathered for the SINC review and should be included within this data sheet.

Several adjacent fields to the site boundary appeared to be of similar habitats and should be considered for future survey and be included within the site boundary. This also applies to the disused railway line, adjacent to the site which contains some calcareous grassland indicators such as carline thistle.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Grassland flora

Compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre*, yellow waxcap species *Hygrocybe* sp., carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, ling *Calluna vulgaris*, mat grass *Nardus stricta*, hard rush *Juncus inflexus*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, heath rush *Juncus squarrosus*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, fool's water cress *Apium nodiflorum*, apple mint *Mentha suaveolens*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*.

Faunal species

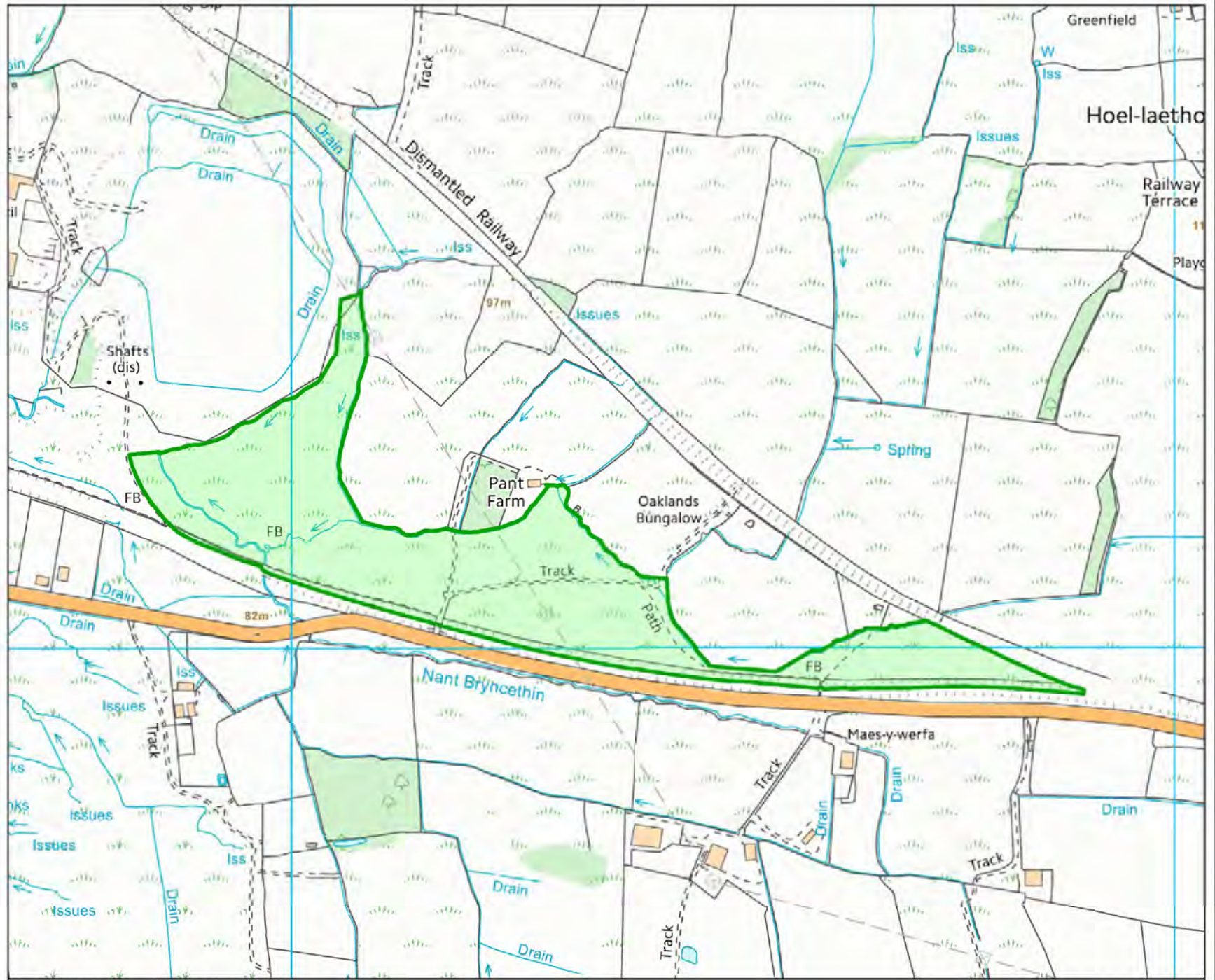
Jay.

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Red kite, fieldfare, skylark, linnets, small heath, reed bunting, kestrel, house sparrow, hedge accentor, starling, song thrush, grey dagger, swift, green hairstreak, goldfinch, siskin, raven, house martin, coot, chiffchaff, garden warbler, blackbird.



SBM-3-N
**Pant Farm/
 Hirwaun Common**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council	
SINC number: SBM-4-N	SINC name: Coed Caehelyg
Grid reference: SS 913 838	Area (hectares): 5.35
Survey date: 26/09/2011	Surveyor: Rebecca East
<p>Summary description</p> <p>An isolated area of woodland surrounded by grassland habitats and housing. Although the ground flora is degraded, it retains representative examples of indicator species. A small stream runs through the woodland.</p>	
<p>Qualifying features</p> <p>Native woodland.</p>	
<p>Secondary features</p> <p>Rivers.</p>	
<p>Potential value/ unconfirmed features</p> <p>Due to the relatively isolated position of this woodland it is less likely to contain poor dispersing species such as dormice, but a relict population could be present. A diversity of invertebrates and birds are likely to make use of the habitat available and there could be bat roosting and feeding opportunities within the site. Common amphibian species may be present making use of the wetter areas and standing water.</p>	
<p>Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)</p> <p>The woodland is not fenced from grazing animals, mainly horses in adjacent fields. The ground flora and understorey is very sparse most likely due to the grazing and trampling. The woodland is quite wet and animals moving around regularly disturb the ground. A small portion of the woodland is managed as an unintentional open ride where overhead cabling is present. The woodland would benefit greatly from some fencing to exclude stock animals and horses with some selective felling and coppicing where appropriate. The soil moisture levels will need to be maintained to sustain this wet woodland habitat, rather than encourage drainage. Where hedge banks are still visible, re-introducing hedge laying may be appropriate. Grazing or cutting should be allowed to continue over the rush pasture area.</p> <p><i>Recommendations for future management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fencing of woodland to prevent livestock grazing • Selective felling and coppicing to maintain good woodland structure and encourage diverse woodland ground flora. Maintain open ride • Grazing or cutting rush pasture • Lay hedges. 	

Additional information:

Landowner: Megan Thomas, Pant Rythin Farm.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Woodland and scrub species

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, crab apple *Malus sylvestris*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, great woodrush *Luzula sylvatica*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, flote grass *Glyceria fluitans*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, scaly male fern *Dryopteris affinis*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, yellow pimpernel *Lysimachia nemorum*, herb robert *Geranium robertianum*, slender St John's wort *Hypericum pulchrum*.

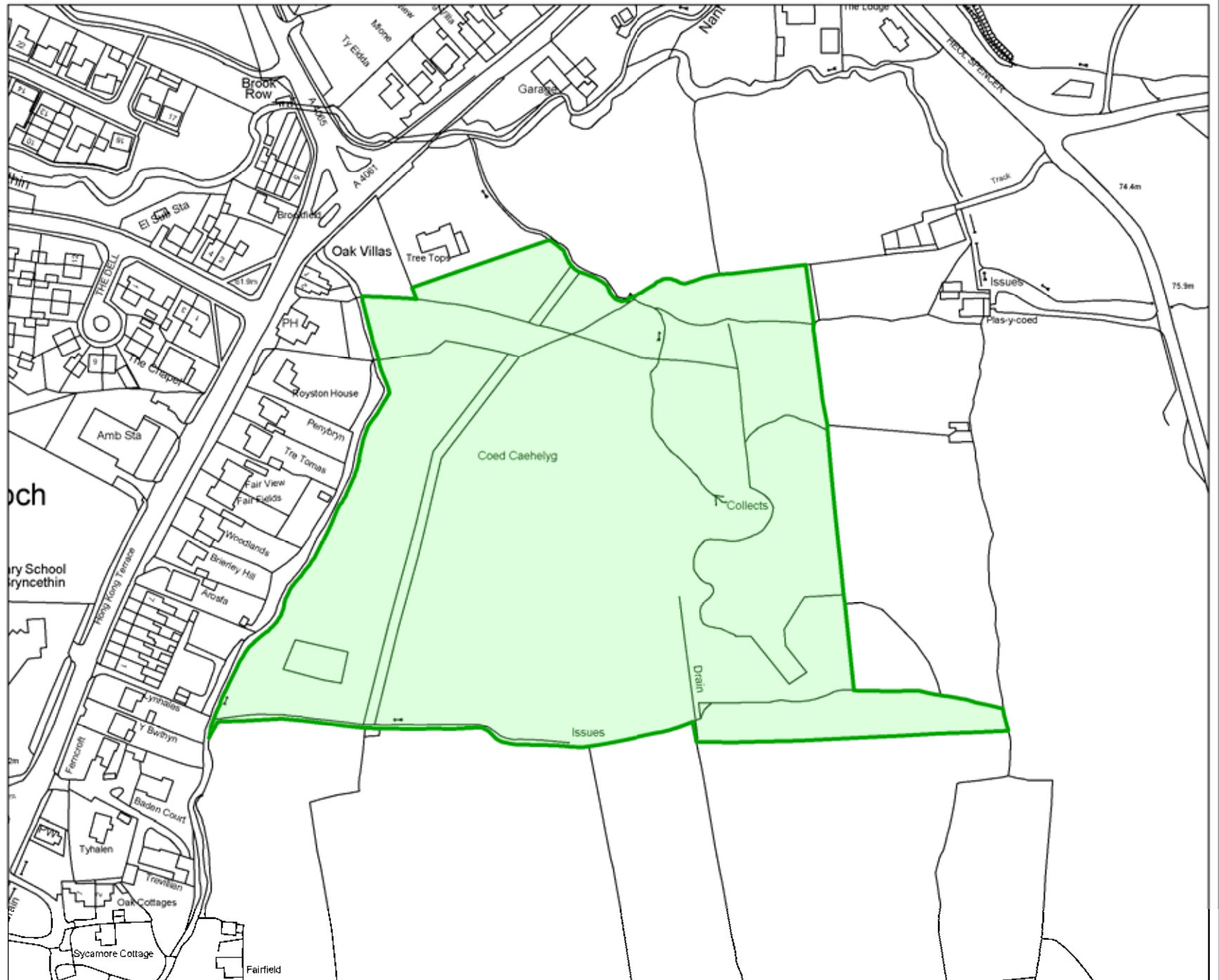
Faunal speciesFaunal species from data search (0m)

None.



**BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW**

**SBM-4-S
Coed Caehelyg**



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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council	
SINC number: SBM-5-N	SINC name: Tyncoed Farm, Bryncethin
Grid reference: SS 907 841	Area (hectares): 24.39
Survey date: 26/09/2011	UDP policy reference:
Summary description	
<p>The former Tyncoed site is now taken up primarily by the Parc Tyncoed housing development. However areas of habitat have been retained between the housing and the river corridor is unaffected by the scheme. The grasslands retain some biodiversity interest.</p>	
Qualifying features	
<p>Mosaic habitats.</p> <p>Rivers.</p>	
Secondary features	
<p>Woodland.</p>	
Potential value/ unconfirmed features	
<p>Given the variety of habitats available, the site could support numerous species of invertebrates, birds including those specialising in the river corridor, and small mammals. The river could support salmonid species, smaller lamprey, bullhead and eel and provide good quality foraging and possibly roosting opportunities for bats.</p>	
Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)	
<p>Parts of the site around the new housing are being managed by the developer at present. Strimmers were in use on the day of survey on the grassland areas. However the operatives were strimming large areas of Himalayan balsam in seed. This invasive species with the Japanese knotweed present is being allowed to spread further. The river corridor is currently choked with Himalayan balsam and the removal of these invasive species is recommended to restore the biodiversity interest of the site margins. Outside of the housing development area either no management has taken place, for example along the railway line, or over management such as heavy horse grazing in the fields to the south. Light to moderate grazing is recommended over the whole site following some extensive scrub removal. The large open area to the east has been strimmed of its scrub cover in the recent past, allowing some grassland species to grow, but is mainly covered by Himalayan balsam. Woodland areas would be improved by selective tree felling.</p> <p><i>Recommendations for future management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum strimming of the grassland around the housing estate to prevent over-management. • Control measures for litter and dog-fouling around the new housing estate. • Reduction in livestock density in fields to the south to prevent over grazing. • Scrub removal and woodland management by selective tree felling. • Appropriate control of invasive species. 	

Additional information:

The boundary of the SINC should be re-drawn to reflect the recent housing development in the centre and south of the site and the development of some additional industrial plots.

A limited area around the housing development was accessible for survey due to construction works.

Landowners Maindy Farm, owners now deceased. Mr. Wilcox southern field.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Grassland flora

Black knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, eyebright *Euphrasia nemorosa*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, red fescue *Festuca rubra*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, silverweed *Potentilla anserina*, bird's foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, red bartsia *Odontites verna*, red clover *Trifolium pratense*, wild carrot *Daucus carota*, imperforate St John's wort *Hypericum maculatum*, hop trefoil *Trifolium campestre*, mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*, burnet saxifrage *Pimpinella saxifrage*.

Woodland and scrub species

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, red campion *Silene dioica*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, wood sage *Teucrium scorodonia*, dog violet *Viola riviniana*, herb robert *Geranium robertianum*, greater stitchwort *Stellaria holostea*, wood false brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, yellow pimpernel *Lysimachia nemorum*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, tufted hair grass *Deschampsia caespitosa*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, golden rod *Solidago virgaurea*, common honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*.

Faunal species

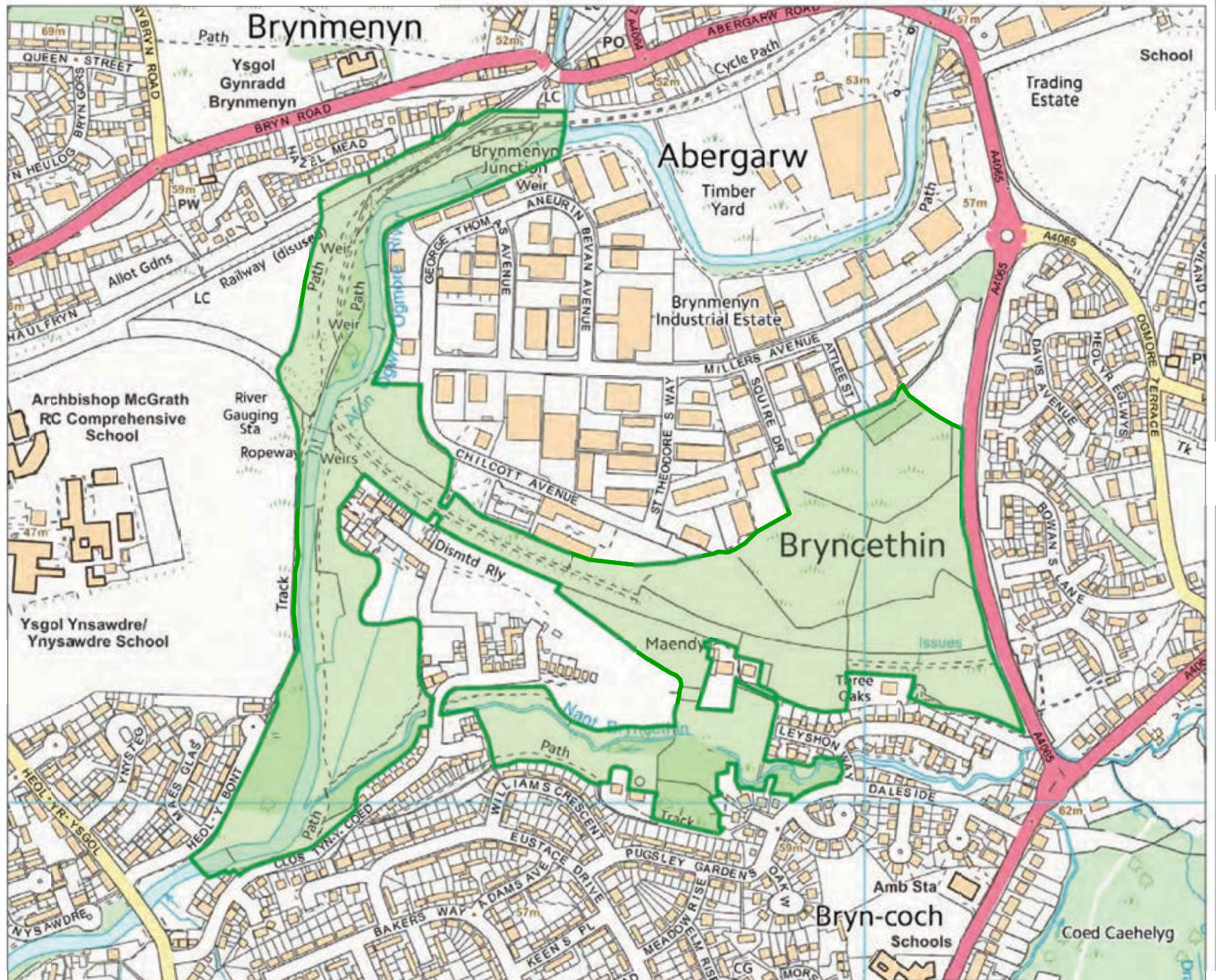
Grey wagtail, dipper, heron.

Faunal species from data search (0m)



**BCBC
2011
SINC REVIEW**

SBM-5-N
Tyncoed Farm,
Bryncethin



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Date: 09/09/2013

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Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council	
SINC number: YA-1-N	SINC name: Rifle Range Wood
Grid reference: SS 896 851	Area (hectares): 20.06
Survey date: 23/09/2011	Surveyor: Rebecca East
<p>Summary description</p> <p>This woodland site shows signs of use in the past relating to industry and the Coytrahen House estate. It retains a reasonably good diversity of indicator species but non-native species appear reasonably common. The river Llynfi runs through the site, which adds to its value and large ponds can be found at the southern end.</p>	
<p>Qualifying features</p> <p>Native Woodland</p> <p>River</p>	
<p>Secondary features</p> <p>Ponds</p> <p>Scrub</p>	
<p>Potential value/ unconfirmed features</p> <p>Otter are very likely to be using the river and possibly the ponds for foraging. The river is also likely to support salmonid species such as brown trout, Atlantic salmon, bullhead, some lamprey species and eels. The connectivity of the woodland provides opportunity for dormice and the canopy will be suitable for a variety of invertebrate and bird species. The pond adds to the potential for aquatic invertebrate species and wetland birds and amphibians. Reptiles may also be present particularly near woodland edge and clearing.</p>	
<p>Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)</p> <p>Part of the site appears to be under regular management, with evidence of some tree clearing in progress. The pond is also likely to be under regular management, but further tree felling could be beneficial to allow more light to the water and ground surface. Rhododendron was very dense in some areas of the woodland and its removal is recommended. The few grassy areas and rides could be extended and cut every year to maintain them as a clearing. Hedges which are layed could have their lifespan extended around the boundaries of the site and coppicing could be reinstated where appropriate species occur. To increase otter resting sites artificial holts could be added near to the river bank. As Himalayan balsam is present in some parts of the site its removal is recommended by pulling or spraying.</p> <p><i>Recommendations for future management.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued management of woodland and pond, introduce coppicing and maintain open rides and clearings. • Consider creation of at least one pond • Lay hedges • Control of invasive species. 	

Additional information:

Several areas adjacent to the designated boundary appeared to be habitats of similar quality and should be considered for survey and be included within the site boundary.

The right of way running north to south was completely overgrown at both ends.

Landowners: Mrs R Beynon, Coytrahen House & Mrs D A Hughes, Abergarw Mill, Abergarw Close, Brynmenyn, CF32 9UF

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Woodland and scrub species

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, yew *Taxus baccata*, alder *Alnus glutinosa*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, goat willow *Salix cinerea*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, beech *Fagus sylvatica*, sweet chestnut *Castanea sativa*, wych elm *Ulmus glabra*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, agrimony *Agrimonia eupatoria*, wood false brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, scaly male fern *Dryopteris affinis*, hart's tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, polypody *Polypodium vulgare*, wood sedge *C. sylvatica*, dog violet *Viola riviana*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, soft shield fern *Polystichum setiferum*, black bryony *Tamus communis*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, tutsan *Hypericum androsaemum*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, red campion *Silene dioica*, wood sage *Teucrium scorodonia*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus uliginosus*,

Faunal species

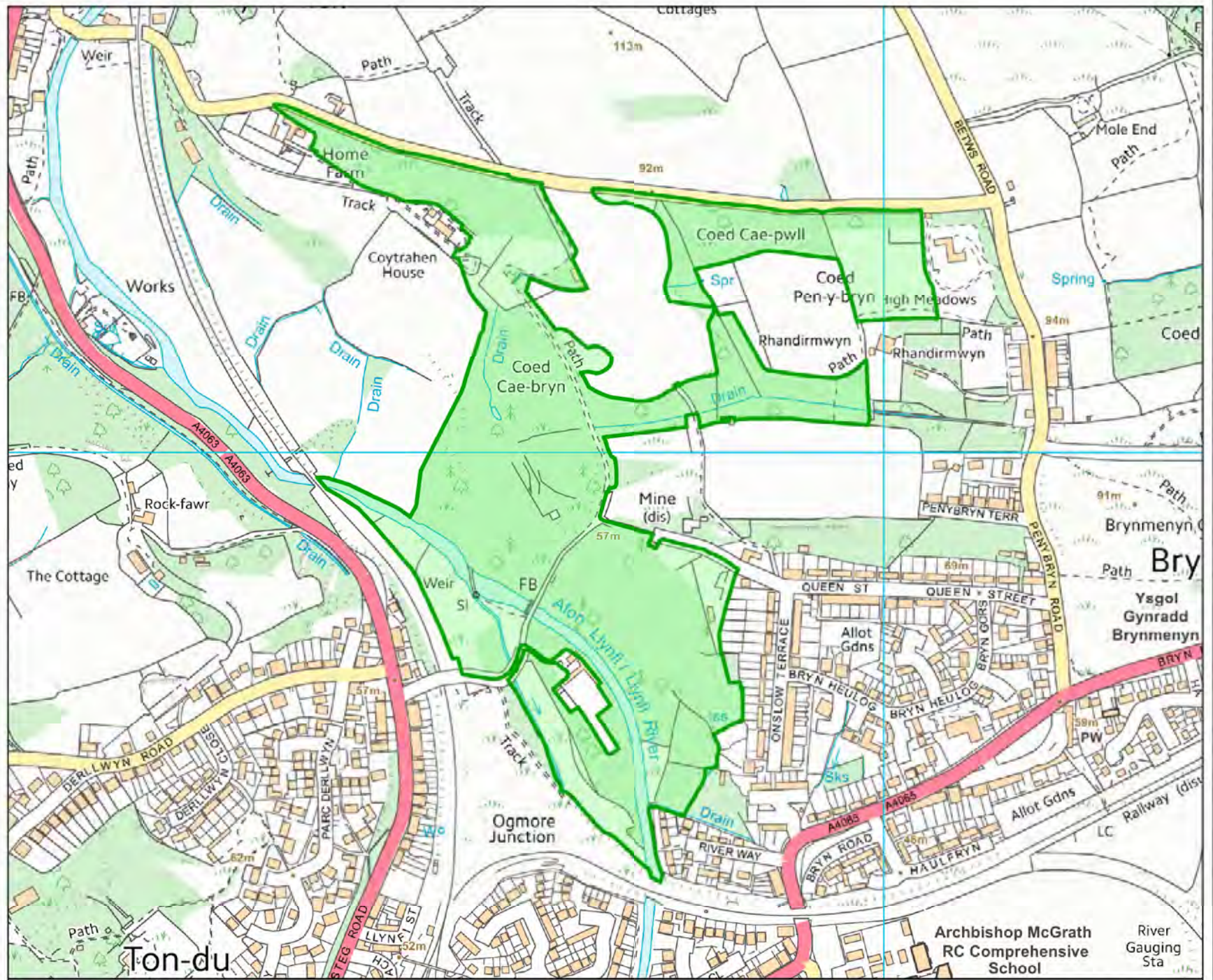
Buzzard, a dragonfly

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Brown trout



**YA-1-N
Rifle Range Wood**



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Bridgend County Borough Council	
SINC number: YA-2-M	SINC name: Brynmenyn
Grid reference: SS 904 849	Area (hectares): 12.76
Survey date: 23/09/2011	Surveyor: Rebecca East
Summary description	
A site with open access containing a large area of bracken, with acidic grassland, broadleaved woodland, scrub and some rush dominated marshy grassland.	
Qualifying features	
Mosaic habitats	
Rivers	
Secondary features	
Native woodland	
Bracken	
Potential value/ unconfirmed features	
The woodland areas are well connected to similar habitat and may hold potential for dormice and other small mammals and birds. The Afon Garw is likely to provide good habitat for otters as well as riparian specialist birds, invertebrates and fish including salmonid species, lamprey, bullhead and eel. The damp grassland areas and standing water are likely to provide habitat for common amphibian species while the drier grassland and bracken areas hold potential for reptiles, although the site is subject to high levels of human disturbance and domestic animals.	
Current condition and management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity)	
<p>The bracken is dominant over much of the site and may be compromising the acidic grassland areas. Rolling or spraying the bracken areas would be appropriate to eliminate it from some areas, and reduce its vigour in areas where it is to be kept and allow a more diverse ground flora. Most areas will require control as an acid grassland habitat would be more practical in such a public, well used space. Ideally grazing of this area is desirable, but impractical due to its unenclosed nature between housing. Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed and rhododendron are all present around the site and are beginning to encroach on several habitats. The removal of these invasive species by spraying and or pulling is recommended to remove them. The single fenced field included inside the site boundary appears to be fairly regularly managed, but cutting more regularly or light to moderate grazing would help to keep dominant species in check. Selective thinning and coppicing would open up the canopy of the woodland areas and allow a more diverse ground flora, since this is currently sparse.</p> <p><i>Recommendations for future management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of bracken to prevent encroachment into grasslands. • Management of the woodland through selective thinning and coppicing. • Control of invasive species. 	

Additional information:

Some adjacent habitat appears to be of a similar quality and should be investigated for its value and possible inclusion to the site boundary.

The site is a popular area for informal recreation activities.

Most rights of way are well used, although some are impassable.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)Grassland flora

Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile*, golden rod *Solidago virgaurea*, compact rush *Juncus conglomeratus*, sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, wood age *Teucrium scorodonia*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, black knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, toad rush *Juncus bufonius*, red campion *Silene dioica*, greater bird's foot trefoil *Lotus uliginosus*, marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, meadow foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, bristle bent *Agrostis curtisii*

Woodland and scrub species

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, goat willow *Salix caprea*, pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, male fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, wild strawberry *Fragaria vesca*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, hard fern *Blechnum spicant*, hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, sweet chestnut *Castanea sativa*, purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea*, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, ground ivy *Glechoma hederacea*, hart's tongue fern *Asplenium scolopendrium*, wood sedge *Carex sylvatica*, remote sedge *Carex remota*, dog violet *Viola riviniana*, wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, opposite leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, red campion *Silene dioica*, wood false brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, alder *Alnus glutinosa*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*

Faunal species

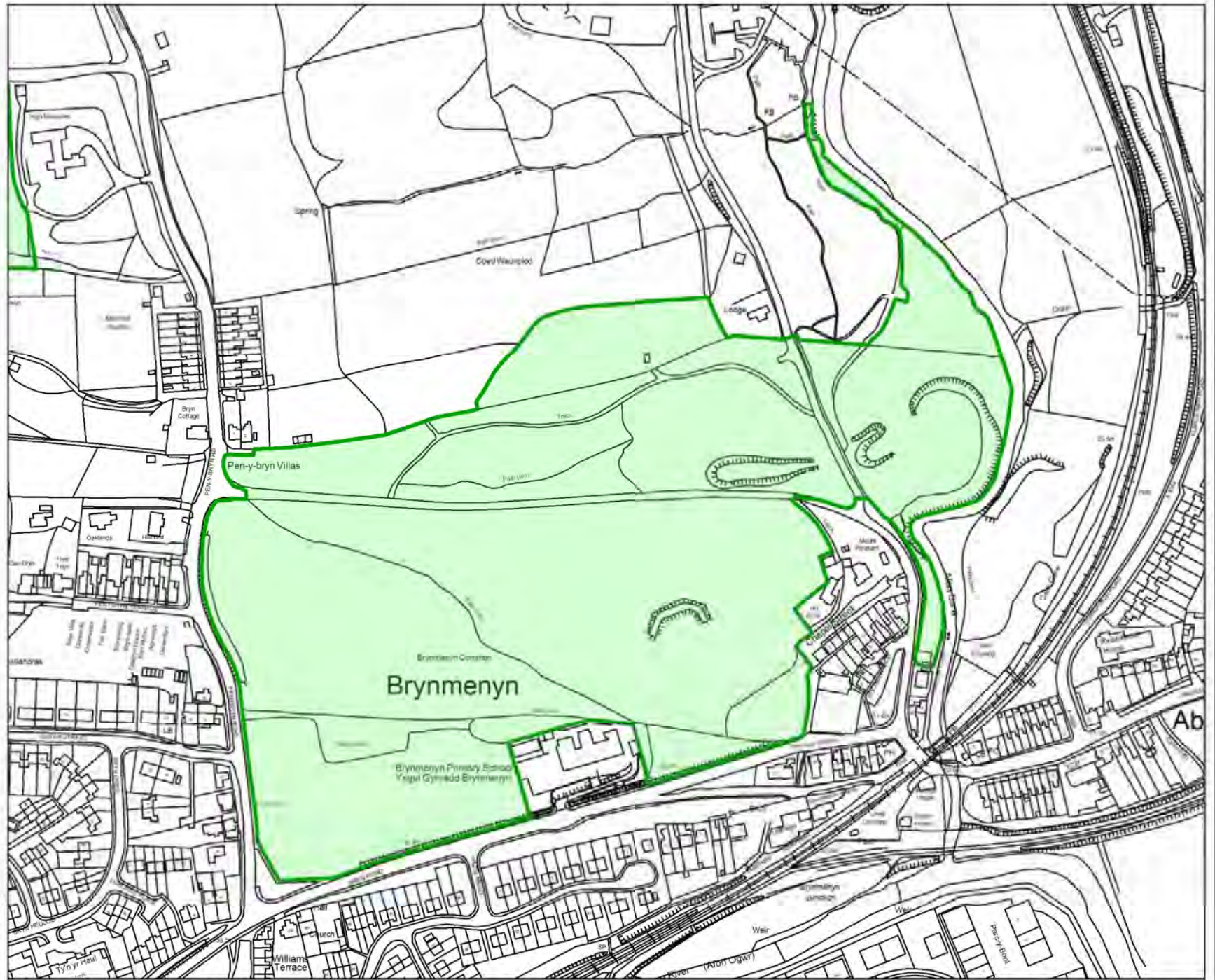
Chiffchaff, blackbird

Faunal species from data search (0m)

Blackbird



YA-2-M
Brynmenyn



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Date: 08/08/2013