

Blaenau Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME:

GRID REF: SO202118

SURVEYOR(S):

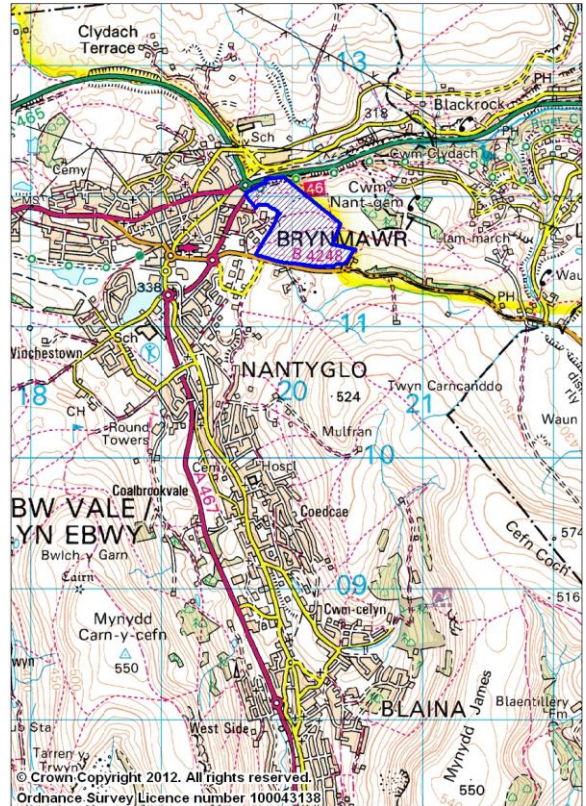
SIZE (approx.):

DATE OF SURVEY:

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:

WARD:

SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

| Habitat types | NVC type | Area (ha) |
|--|----------|-----------|
| Semi improved neutral grassland Dry acid heath Marshy grassland Planted broadleaved woodland Semi natural broadleaf woodland Dry heath/acid grassland mosaic Standing water Bracken Hedgerow | | |

FULL DESCRIPTION OF SITE (including topography, adjacent land use, access and boundaries etc.):

The site is situated west-north of the village of Waunafon and extends for approximately 2km into noble square, situated on the eastern side of Brynmawr.

The area is for the most part post-industrial land and been subject to former mining activity. It includes concrete bases, a disused railway and tram roads, spoil tip remains, excavated and worked land, dwellings access road and tracks, surface drainage, services and old fencing.

The land is within the 'commons' area, which has been grazed by sheep, cattle and ponies. Some parts are owned by Sustrans who are proposing to create a cyclepath through the area.

Despite this, the land is rich in biodiversity with large areas of land having been recolonised with a mosaic of vegetation. Habitats include semi improved neutral grassland, dry acid heath, marshy grassland, planted broadleaved and semi natural broadleaved woodland, dry heath and acid grassland mosaic, standing water bracken and hedgerow.

It is adjacent to a number of designated wildlife sites including Waunafon Bog (cSSSI and SINC), Garn Lakes (LNR), Brynmawr Sections (SSSI), Mynydd Llangatwg (SSSI), Cwm Clydach (SSSI and NNR) and the Mulfran, Mynydd James and Coity Mountain (cSSSI and SINC).

Official Use Only: Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES NO Date: 15th January 2008

Please state the section(s) of the Wildlife Site Guidelines that this site qualifies under:

The whole site (including areas within Torfaen CBC) qualify as a SINC under the mid valleys SINC criteria based on the mosaic of habitats present in addition to mammals, breeding birds, reptiles and butterflies and odonata. Specifically:

Presence of breeding lapwing and yellow hammer (designatory species)

Presence of breeding linnet, skylark and winchat

Presence of adder in addition to common lizard (supporting)

Dingy skipper, small heath, grayling, small pearl bordered fritillary, dark green fritillary

Keeled skimmer in addition to emerald damselfly, scarce blue tailed damselfly, golden ringed dragonfly, common hawkmer and black darter.

Contributory vascular plant species – yellow rattle and crowberry

Habitats - mosaic

| Qualifying Habitat types | Number of indicator species present |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Neutral grassland/heathland | |
| Ponds | |
| Hedgerow | |
| Mineral spoil tips and other post industrial land | |