

# Blaenau Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

## SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME:

GRID REF:

SURVEYOR(S):

SIZE (approx.):

DATE OF SURVEY:

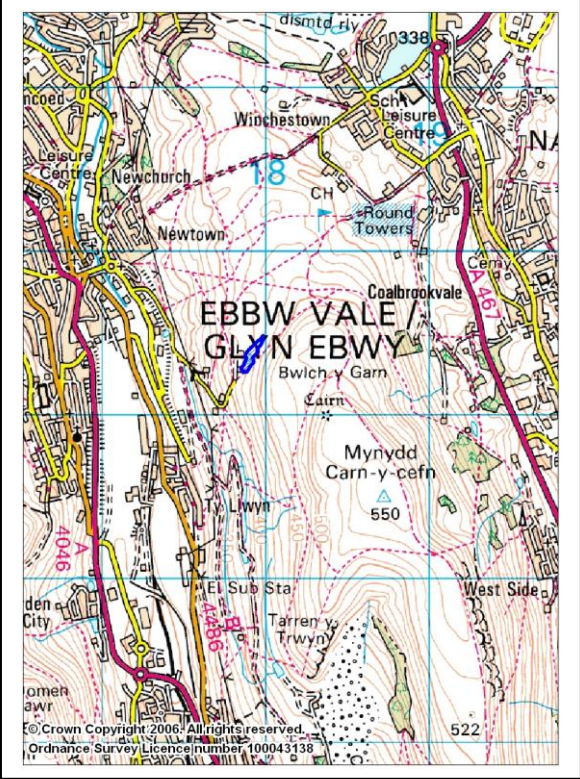
LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:

WARD:

### MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)
Semi improved acid grassland	U4	
Open water (pools)	-	
Marshy grassland	-	

### SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



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

Long, irregularly shaped field supporting species-rich acid grassland (U4), lying over uneven ground with outlying stones and surrounded by drystone walls. A variety of grasses are constant including *Agrostis tenuis* (common bent), *Danthonia decumbens* (heath grass), *Deschampsia flexuosa* (wavy hair grass) and *Festuca ovina* (sheep's fescue). *Potentilla erecta* (tormentil) is frequent and locally abundant and *Luzula campestris* (field wood rush) occasional/frequent. *Vaccinium myrtillus* (bilberry) is occasionally distributed and *Galium saxatile* (heath bedstraw) is locally occurring. The sward is richest over the northern half. The steep bank that flanks the western edge of the field, towards the south of the site, also supports good frequencies of acid grassland indicators.

Marshy areas are distributed mid way down the field and include *Juncus effusus* (soft rush), *Juncus squarrosus* (heath rush), *Potentilla erecta*, *Molinia caerulea* (purple moor grass) and *Deschampsia cespitosa* (tufted hair grass) and *Carex sp.* (sedge species).

Two open pools at the south are lined with *Juncus effusus* and add to the diversity of habitats on site. Dragonflies were seen hunting over the pools. A strip of poorer grassland is situated to the west of these pools at the base of the raised bank associated with the pools. The field is bordered by open moorland to the east and the buildings/yard of Bwlch-y-garn Farm to the west. It is separated from an improved field to the north west by a defunct drystone wall.

N.B. Further enclosed SI acid grassland lies to the northern tip of the site, forming a link with Bwlch-y-garn North candidate Local Wildlife Site. This linking sward is a tightly horse cropped acid sward, rather herb poor and damp and is not included within the Local Wildlife Site boundary. Grasses dominate with *Festuca ovina* and *Nardus stricta* (mat grass) typical (some affinity to U5). *Holcus lanatus* (Yorkshire fog) and *Trifolium repens* (white clover) are occasional and *Rumex acetosa* (common sorrel), *Deschampsia cespitosa* and *Juncus effusus* are locally occasional.

**Official Use Only:** Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES  NO  Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

H6) Acid grasslands

Qualifying Habitat types	Number of indicator species present
Semi improved acid grassland	9