

Blaenau Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME:

GRID REF: SO168075

SURVEYOR(S):

SIZE (approx.):

DATE OF SURVEY:

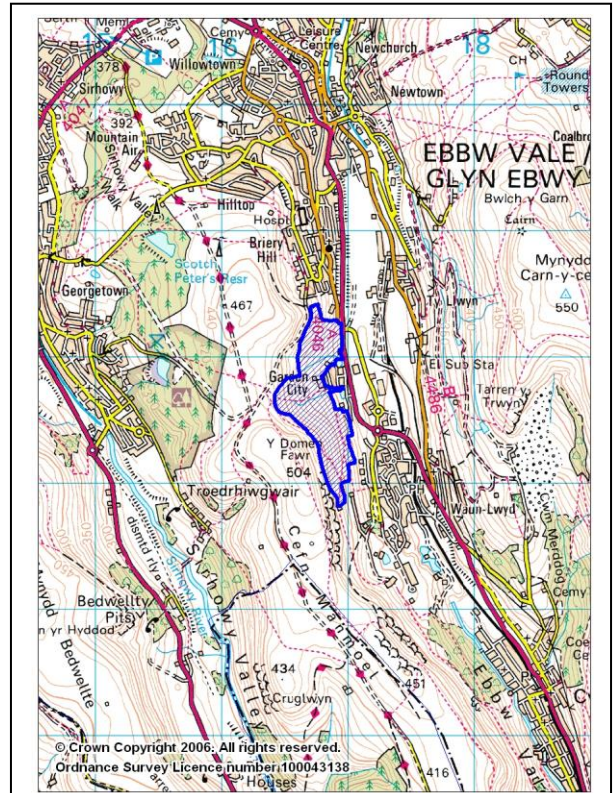
LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:

WARD:

MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)
Acid grassland/Heathland	U4a,	
Mosaic	U4e	
Heathland	H12c	
Mire communities	-	
Bracken	U20	
Open water (pond)	-	
Neutral grassland	MG9,	
Marshy grassland	MG10	

SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



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

The Garden City site has been reclaimed since the coal mining industry. It is located circa 2km south of Ebbw Vale, around the village of Garden City, and has an easterly aspect. A mosaic of habitats is present, including acid grassland, heathland, mire communities, bracken communities and open water. Most of the site has been planted with a mixture of tree species including *Fagus sylvatica* (Beech), *Larix kaempferi* (Japanese larch) and *Pinus sylvestris* (Scots pine).

The mire communities and dry heathland represent the most botanical interest. Heathland is found over a large part of the site and occurs in a mosaic with acid grassland in many places. Species include frequent *Calluna vulgaris* (Heather), *Vaccinium myrtillus* (Bilberry), *Galium saxatile* (Heath bedstraw), and *Potentilla erecta* (Tormentil) and *Festuca ovina* (Sheep's-fescue). Base poor mires are found throughout the site generally dominated by *Juncus effusus* (Soft-rush) but with other typical species including *Narthecium ossifragum* (Bog asphodel) and *Eriophorum angustifolium* (Common cottongrass). Together with the site's acid grassland these habitats are all of Local Wildlife Site quality. Two ponds support floating and emergent vegetation that includes *Apium nodiflorum* (Fool's water-cress), *Glyceria fluitans* (Floating sweet-grass), and *Iris pseudacorus* (Yellow iris).

Areas of species-poor neutral grassland and bracken/acid grassland mosaic adjoin these habitats and are not separated by physical boundaries. They are included in the Local Wildlife Site boundary in accordance with H20 (Mosaic Habitats) of *The Guidelines for the Selection of Wildlife Sites in South Wales*. The site also provides potentially valuable habitat for birds and invertebrates. Further survey in summer was recommended.

Official Use Only: Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES NO Date: _____

Section(s) of the Wildlife Site Guidelines that this site qualifies under:

H20) Mosaic habitats	
Qualifying Habitat types	Number of indicator species present
H6) Acid grasslands	10
H10) Heathlands and Grass Heath Communities	n/a
H12) Bog habitats and flushes	n/a