

# Blaenau Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

## SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME:

GRID REF: SO157057

SURVEYOR(S):

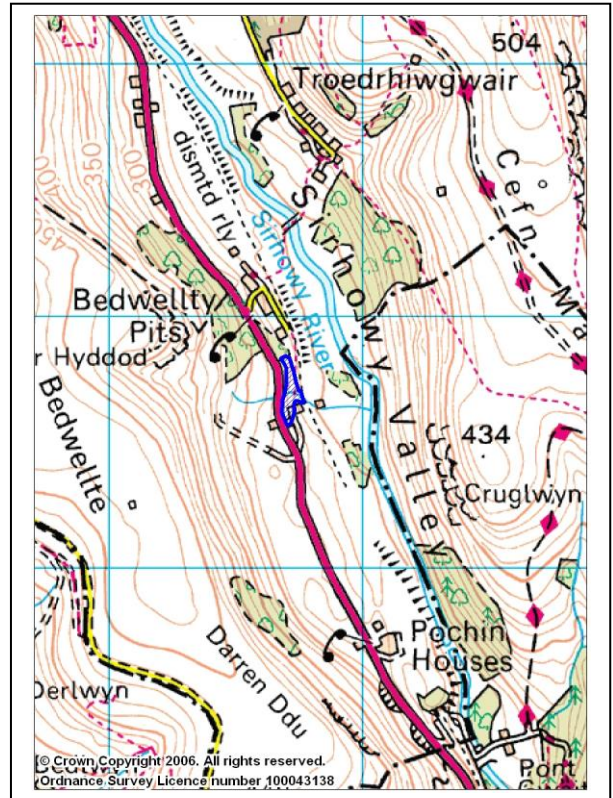
SIZE (approx.):

DATE OF SURVEY:

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:

WARD:

### SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



### MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)
Semi improved acid grassland Semi improved neutral grassland Improved grassland Scattered trees & scrub	U4 MG5/6 MG6	

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

A long field lying to the western edge of the Bedwellty Pits dismantled railway, with a moderate-steep east facing slope containing a species-rich grassland sward with an acidic nature.

Acid indicator species are particularly associated with the ant hills that are scattered over the north of the site. These include *Pilosella officinarum* (Mouse-ear hawkweed), *Potentilla erecta* (Tormentil), *Vaccinium myrtillus* (Bilberry) and *Veronica officinalis* (Heath speedwell).

*Lotus corniculatus* (Common bird's-foot trefoil) is frequent across the site and moving south the sward has a more neutral feel with frequent *Centaurea nigra* (Common knapweed), *Hypochoeris radicata* (Cat's-ear), *Achillea millefolium* (Yarrow) together with occasional *Luzula campestris* (Field wood-rush) and *Stellaria graminea* (Lesser stitchwort). Despite the site's acid tendencies at the north in terms of number of indicator species it qualifies as a candidate Local Wildlife Site under the Neutral Grasslands criteria.

Moving further south, near the farm barns the vegetation is less interesting and rather grass dominated. A hollow contains alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and scrub. At the far south of the site near Lower Farm house a small formerly separate field contains a lush more improved sward with abundant *Trifolium repens* (White clover) and *Plantago lanceolata* (Ribwort plantain). *Lolium perenne* (Perennial rye-grass) and *Ranunculus repens* (Creeping buttercup) are also frequent.

Physical remains of the site's industrial past include apparent stone drainage channels which run down the slope, in the site's northern half. A small area of grazed deciduous woodland lies to the north, with some species-rich areas, elsewhere improved grassland is the dominant surrounding habitat.

**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:**

H4) Neutral Grassland

**Qualifying Habitat types:** Neutral Grassland