Blaenau Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME:	Milgatw Farm Gra	assland				
GRID REF: SC	0134119		SUF	SURVEYOR(S): Rebecca Price		
SIZE (approx.): 10.72 ha					Cathy Body	
DATE OF SURV				SKETCH	I MAP OF SITES LOCATION:	
LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA: Blaenau Gwent				A Pranting		
					Industrial	
MAIN HABITA'	<u>I TYPES PRESI</u>	ENT:			Estate	
Habitat types		NVC type	Area (ha)	and a	Shon Sheffress 419	
Semi improved acid grassland Marshy grassland Improved grassland Scattered scrub Running water		U4 M23/M25 MG6		Nant-y-E	Blaen-y-cwm Cemy Cemy Dukestown Censy Dukestown Censy Dukestown Censy Ce	

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

A large field with a moderate west/south west facing slope, lying to the north east of Milgatw Farm, and with a stream at its base. Derelict stone walls run through the field and a narrow ditch runs east – west centrally through site. The upper slope supports nice species-rich acid grassland (particularly on steepest part of slope and plateau in south east quarter of field) with frequent *Danthonia decumbens* (Heath grass), *Nardus stricta* (Mat grass), *Potentilla erecta* (Tormentil), *Euphrasia officinalis* (Eyebright) and *Galium saxatile* (Heath bedstraw). *Polygala serpyllifolia* (Heath milkwort) and *Campanula rotundiflora* (Harebell) are occasional.

Patches of relatively species-rich marshy grassland exist in the south east quarter of the site. The rest of the field (particularly to the south of the ditch) is characterized by frequent *Juncus effusus* (Soft rush) with scattered patches of shorter vegetation including wet mossy and sedge (*Carex* spp.) patches, and short acid grassland. Areas are quite tightly grazed in places.

Towards the north of the site the slope continues to exhibit a good frequency of acid indicators which continues westwards towards the stream. Scattered hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and gorse (*Ulex* spp.) are also present on the slope. The acid grassland has sufficient indicator species to qualify as a candidate Local Wildlife Site in its own right and the whole site qualifies under the Mosaic habitat guidelines.

The site is bordered by unenclosed moorland to the east and north, semi improved poor grassland to the west and a small unit of semi improved neutral grassland to the south.

Official Use Only: Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YE	ES	NO	Date:
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Section(s) of the Wildlife Site Guidelines that this site qualifies under: H6) Acid grasslands, H20) Mosaic habitats

Qualifying Habitat types: Acid grasslands