

# Blaenau Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

## SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME:

GRID REF: SO190070

SURVEYOR(S):

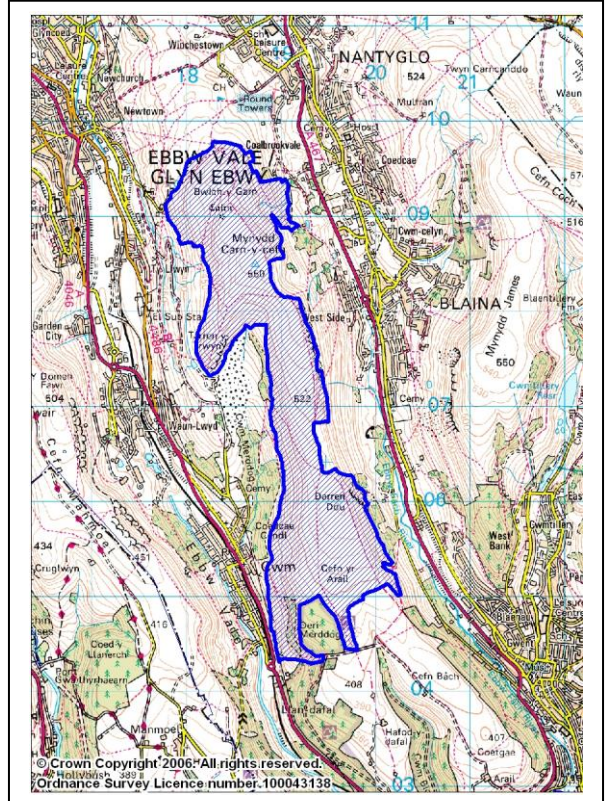
SIZE (approx.):

DATE OF SURVEY:

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:

WARD:

### SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



### MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)
Upland Heath Acid Grassland	H12/H18 U4e/U5 U20	
Wet Heath Mire	M15d M25c	
Woodland	W12/W17	

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

Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn and Carn-yr-Arial is a valley ridge separating the Ebbw Fach and Ebbw Fawr valleys. The main part of the ridge is characterised by steep slopes to the east and west with locally extensive faulting over the plateau. H18 is the main vegetation community over the survey area dominated by *Vaccinium myrtillus* (Bilberry) with *Empeterum nigrum* (Crowberry), *Calluna vulgaris* (Ling) and *Pleurozium shreberi* (a moss). There are also areas of wet heath, and following the spring lines mire communities are found with *Carex echinata* (Star sedge) and *Carex lepidocarpa* (Long-stalked Yellow Sedge).

Large areas of bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) dominate the lower slopes creating a mosaic with acid grassland and scattered trees. In the acid grassland, species include: *Galium saxatile* (Heath Bedstraw), *Luzula campestris* (Field Woodrush) and *Vaccinium myrtillus* (Bilberry). There are also areas of W15 and W17 woodland, upland sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) (both HAP's for Blaenau Gwent) found on the steeper slopes of the main ridge. The large areas of heathland appear in a favourable condition. The mosaic of habitats support a diverse range of wildlife.

The site lies adjacent to Cwm Merddog Woodlands SSSI.

**Section(s) of the Wildlife Site Guidelines that this site qualifies under:** Mosaic Habitats (H20)

**Qualifying Habitat types:** Upland heath, Wet heath, Acid grassland, Mire, Woodland

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