

# Blaenau Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

## SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME:

GRID REF: SO215025

SURVEYOR(S):

SIZE (approx.):

DATE OF SURVEY:

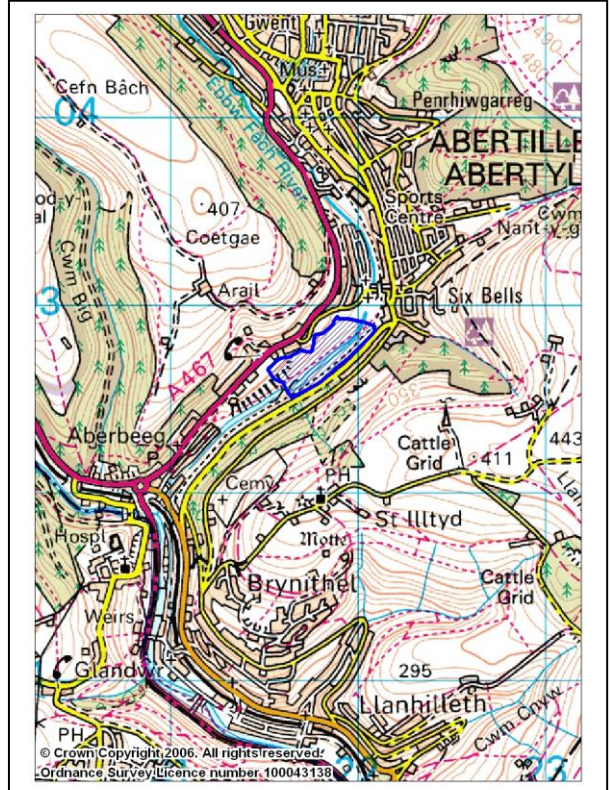
LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:

WARD:

### MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)
Heathland	H12	
Woodland	W7/W16	
	W23/W25	
Acid Grassland	U1	
Spoil	-	
Running Water(River)	-	
Neutral Grassland	MG9	
Scattered Trees	-	
Scrub	W23/W25	
Bracken	U20	

### SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



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

The site is located on the former Six Bells colliery which closed in 1988. It is located south of Abertillery and follows the valley bottom along the Afon Ebbw Fach. It consists of steep west facing slopes rising from the former site workings and buildings.

The site consists of a range of habitats including woodland, heath, grassland and scrub. These are interspersed with areas of spoil. At the south-east end of the site lies a river with an important riparian woodland community (W7,W16). Within the woodland are areas of damp grassland (MG9). North of the woodland are areas of acid grassland intersected by heath, bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and scrub following the steep slopes. These areas of heath (*Calluna vulgaris-Vaccinium myrtillus*,H12), gorse (*Ulex sp.*) scrub and birch (*Betula sp.*) trees represent a diverse habitat (Areas 2 and 4). The gorse (*Ulex sp.*) is important for linnet (*Carduelis cannabina*) and stonechat (*Saxicola torquat*).

Areas 1 and 9 contain spoil with grassland, scrub and scattered trees. These have limited conservation value and together with an area of MG6 (Area 6) grassland are partially excluded from the Local Wildlife Site boundary.

**Section(s) of the Wildlife Site Guidelines that this site qualifies under:** Woodlands (H1), Mosaic Habitats (H20), Scrub Communities (H3), Acid Grasslands (H6)

**Qualifying Habitat types:** Woodlands, Acid Grasslands, Scrub

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