

Blaenau Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME: The Ducky / The Small ducky

GRID REF: SO155073

SURVEYOR(S): J.Winder

SIZE (approx.): 0.37ha

DATE OF SURVEY: 21.08.07

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:

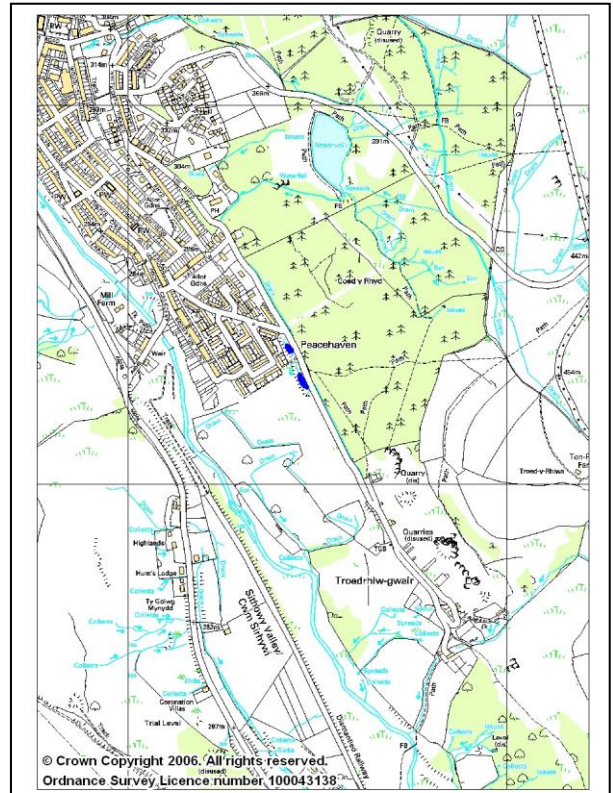
Blaenau Gwent

WARD: Tredegar

MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)
Ponds	-	
Swamp	S12b S22	
Mixed marshy vegetation		
Open Water	-	
Stream	-	
Neutral grassland	MG1/ MG10/ MG5	

SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



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

The pond site at Peacehaven is located south of the village to the west of the road to Troedrihw-gwair. It comprises of two ponds named 'The Ducky' and 'The Small Ducky'. The ponds are linked by a small stream, the whole site including the banks, forming an important wildlife corridor and buffer zone. 'The Ducky' is the larger pond with approximately 80% open water, within which there is approximately 10% cover of green filamentous algae. The other 20% of the pond is mainly referable to **S22 *Glyceria fluitans* water-margin vegetation** where there is an abundance of *Glyceria fluitans* (floating sweet-grass). Other species include *Typha latifolia* (common reedmace), *Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum* (water-cress), *Iris pseudacorus* (yellow iris), *Equisetum fluviale* (water horsetail), *Filipendula ulmaria* (meadowsweet), *Lotus pedunculatus* (greater bird's-foot-trefoil), *Epilobium palustre* (marsh willowherb), *E. hirsutum* (great willowherb) and *Juncus inflexus* (hard rush). There are also algae within the **S22**.

'The Small Ducky' is dominated by a mixed emergent vegetation, the wetter area is referable to **S12b *Typha latifolia* swamp *Mentha aquatica* sub-community**. Dominated by *Typha latifolia* (common reedmace), other species include *Mentha aquatica* (water mint), *Iris pseudacorus* (yellow flag iris), *Ranunculus flammula* (lesser spearwort), *Epilobium hirsutum* (great willowherb), *Lotus pedunculatus* (greater bird's-foot-trefoil), *Hydrocotyle vulgaris* (water pennywort) and *Callitriche stagnalis* (common water-starwort). Species found in the drier areas of the pond (mixed marshy vegetation) include *Carex hirta* (hairy sedge), *Filipendula ulmaria* (meadowsweet), *Deschampsia cespitosa* (tufted hair-grass), *Agrostis stolonifera* (creeping bent) and *Valeriana officinalis* (common valerian).

The ponds are fed by a small stream which is running clear, species found within the stream include *Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum* (water-cress), *Glyceria fluitans* (floating sweet-grass), *Iris pseudacorus* (yellow flag iris) and *Lemna minor* (common duckweed). The area around the watercourse, mainly around 'The Small Ducky' supports a marshy grassland vegetation, **MG10 *Holcus lanatus*-*Juncus effusus* rush-pasture**. Species found include *Holcus lanatus* (Yorkshire fog), *Agrostis stolonifera* (creeping bent), *Juncus effusus* (soft rush), *Iris pseudacorus* (yellow flag iris), *Mentha aquatica* (water mint) and *Carex remota* (remote sedge).

The banks of the pond support a mosaic of grassland vegetation, with patches of *Rubus fruticosus* (bramble) and *Ulex europaeus* (gorse) scrub and scattered individual trees. The grassland does not 'fit' an NVC and is described as **MG1/MG10/MG5** mosaic. Dominant grasses are *Agrostis capillaris* (common bent), *Festuca rubra* (red fescue), *Dactylis glomerata* (cocksfoot), *Holcus lanatus* (Yorkshire fog), *Arrhenatherum elatius* (false oat-grass), *Cynosorus cristatus* (crested dog's-tail) and *Anthoxanthum odoratum* (sweet vernal grass). Other species include *Luzula campestris* (field woodrush), *Lotus corniculatus* (bird's-foot trefoil) and *Achillea millefolium* (yarrow), *Cirsium arvense* (creeping thistle) and *Filipendula ulmaria* (meadowsweet).

Site qualifies under the following sections of the Wildlife Site Guidelines:

Standing Open Water (H15), Swamp (H10), Watercourses (H14), Mosaic Habitats (H20)

Qualifying Habitat types: Standing Open Water, Swamp

Official Use Only: Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES ☒ NO ☐ Date: 15th January 2008