

<b>Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Caerphilly County Borough Council</b>	
<b><u>LDP Policy Ref. NH 3.59</u></b>	<b>SINC name: Tredomen Tip Ponds, Tredomen</b>
<b>Grid reference: ST127950</b>	<b>Area (hectares): 10</b>
<b>Survey date: 10<sup>th</sup> July 2007</b>	<b>Surveyed by: Dr Peter Sturgess (Hyder Consulting Ltd.)</b>
<b>(UDP policy reference: C11.74)</b>	
<b>Summary description</b>	
<p>An area of former workings with a varied topography and wide range of soil conditions and habitats. The southern block comprises a stand of damp woodland dominated by Alder, Willow and Birch. The grassland adjacent to this includes a mix of acid grassland with numerous large anthills, and Bracken. The northern part of the SINC includes a series of damp hollows, which are widened in the central part to form two shallow-edged ponds. The ponds are fringed by emergent vegetation including Bulrush, Common spike-rush and Bladder sedge. The western part of the SINC includes a former tip with a mix of dry and damp acid grassland, and scattered scrub.</p>	
<b>Qualifying features</b>	
Semi-natural wet woodland.	
Ponds with semi-natural wetland vegetation.	
Acid grassland with at least 7 indicator species.	
Grassland with a high density of large anthills.	
Population of Great Crested Newts.	
<b>Secondary features</b>	
Scrub.	
Bracken.	
<b>Potential value/ unconfirmed features</b>	
The site is likely to support a high diversity of invertebrates, potentially including dragonflies and fritillary butterflies.	
The tip, pond margins and grassland areas are likely to support reptiles.	
The site is likely to provide good foraging and roosting habitat for bats.	
The ponds may support Water vole (recorded nearby at Nelson Bog SSSI).	
<b>Current management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement)</b>	
<p>Sheep lightly graze the whole area. There does not appear to be any other active habitat management. The former tip is likely to have engineering constraints on possible management options. Some of the acid grasslands with large anthills appear to be in imminent danger of becoming over-shaded by Bracken and scrub. Careful, localised scrub and Bracken clearance may</p>	

be beneficial for these habitats. The ponds were dug out in autumn 2007, as much of the standing water area had become heavily choked by wetland vegetation. Monitoring for Great crested newts will be undertaken over the next few years. Some parts of the SINC appear to have been subject to minor vandalism, including tree-damage, fires, motorcycling and litter. However, these activities do not appear to have affected the site's value for nature conservation.

### Access/ community use

There is no formal public access to the site, but a public footpath passes through the eastern side of the SINC, and there are also several informal paths.

### Additional information

The SINC lies close to Nelson Bog SSSI. The old double-hedged lane Heol Pont Y Seison adjoining the eastern boundary of the SINC may have potential value as a commuting/ foraging route for bats and other wildlife. Parc Penallta, to the north of the railway line, supports a diverse range of new and developing habitats including ponds and reedbed likely to meet SINC criteria, which should be considered at future SINC review.

### Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

(LBAP species shown in **bold**, species confirmed by 2007 survey in *italics*)

Woodland and scrub tree and shrub species: *Alnus glutinosa*, *Betula pubescens*, *Corylus avellana*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Salix cinerea*, *Quercus robur*, *Salix caprea*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Malus sp.*, *Hedera helix*, *Lonicera periclymenum*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Rosa arvensis*, *Ulex gallii*.

Woodland ground flora: *Circaea lutetiana*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Geum urbanum*, ***Hyacinthoides non-scripta***, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Oxalis acetosella*, *Ranunculus repens*, *Ajuga reptans*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Carex remota*, *Juncus effusus*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Mnium hornum*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Plagiomnium undulatum*, *Polytrichum formosum*, *Pellia sp.*

Wetland plant species (including ponds and marshy grassland areas): *Oenanthe crocata*, *Mentha aquatica*, *Lycopus europaeus*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Galium palustre*, *Lythrum portula*, *Persicaria hydropiper*, *Urtica dioica*, *Stachys palustris*, *Ranunculus cf peltatus* (out of reach), *Valeriana officinalis*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Myosotis secunda*, *Veronica beccabunga*, *Apium nodiflorum*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Glyceria fluitans*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Briza media*, *Carex vesicaria*, *Carex paniculata*, *Carex remota*, *Eleocharis palustris*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Aulacomnium palustre*.

Acid grassland species (including dry acid grassland, damp, semi-improved acid grassland and Bracken areas): *Potentilla erecta*, *Potentilla reptans*, *Viola riviniana*, *Prunella vulgaris*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Carlina vulgaris*, *Succisa pratensis*, *Galium saxatile*, *Pilosella officinarum*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Festuca rubra*, *Festuca ovina*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Nardus stricta*, *Aira caryophyllea*, *Danthonia decumbens*, *Bromus hordeaceus*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Arrhenatherum elatius*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Carex flacca*, *Luzula campestris*, *Luzula multiflora*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *Polytrichum piliferum*, *Polytrichum formosum*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Hypnum lacunosum*, *Scleropodium purum*, *Aulacomnium palustre*, *Racomitrium canescens*, *Racomitrium cf heterostichum*, *Cladonia spp.*, *Peltigera sp.*

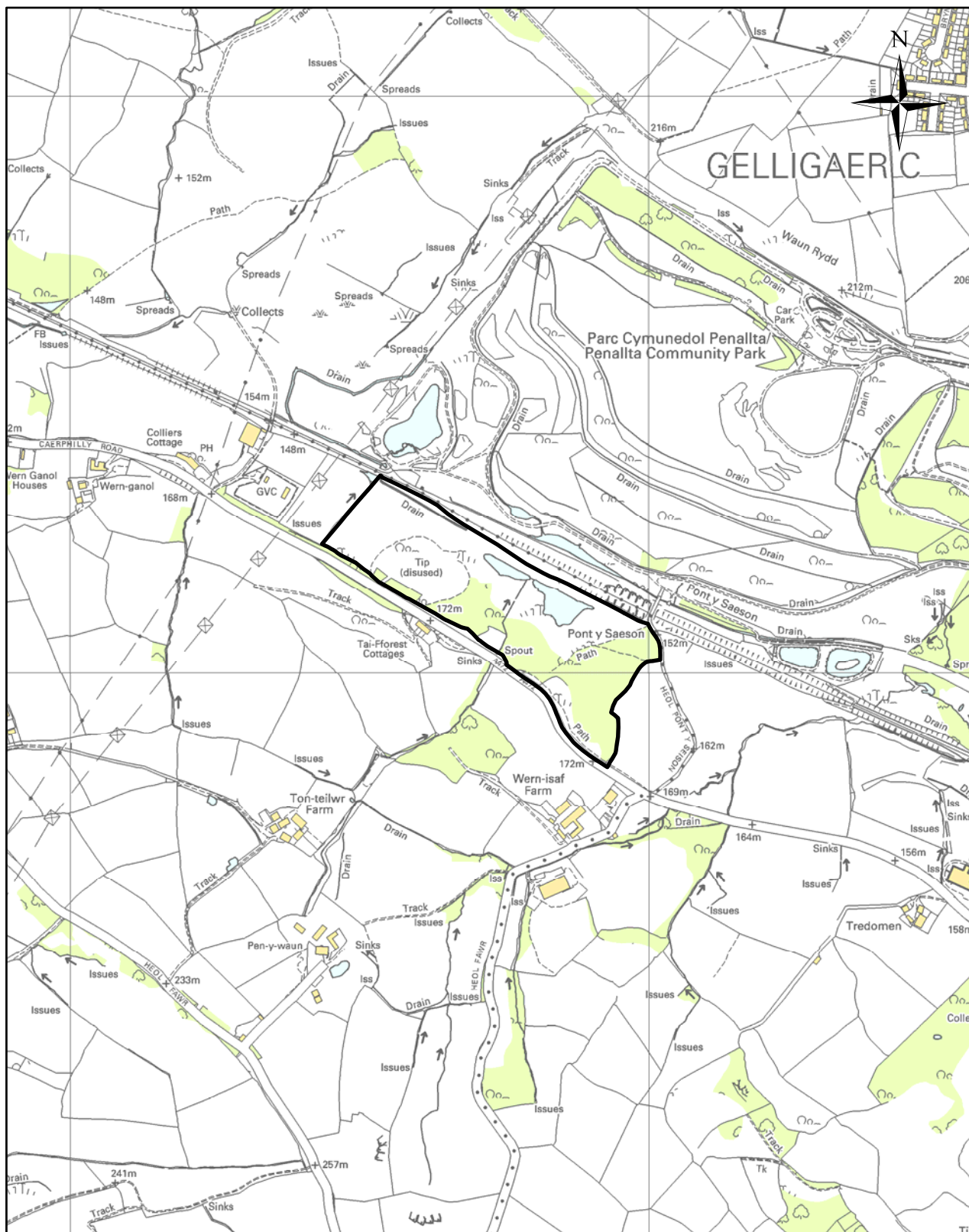
Fauna observations: **Brown Hare**, **Bullfinch**, **Buzzard**, **Green Woodpecker**, *Wren*, *Jay*, *Blackcap*, *Willow Warbler*, **Kestrel**, *Dunnock*, *Robin*, **Toad**, *Red Admiral Butterfly*, *Meadow Brown Butterfly*.

Additional species noted from desk study: **Natterer's Bat**, **Common Pipistrelle**, **Badger**, **Great Crested Newt**, **Palmate Newt**, **Common Frog**.

There are also many records from the nearby Nelson Bog SSSI, including **Otter**, **Water Vole**, **Barn Owl**, **Curlew**, **Double Line Moth** and **bats**.

Caerphilly County Borough Council  
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation  
LDP Policy Ref: NH 3.59 (SINC 074)  
Tredomen Tip Ponds, Nelson 10 Ha

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Gall hyn arwain at erlyniad neu achos sifil. Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili, 100025372, 2008.