

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Caerphilly County Borough Council	
<u>LDP Policy Ref. NH 3.162</u>	SINC name: Glawnant Field, Senghenydd
Grid reference: ST113915	Area (hectares): 5
Survey date: 11th September 2007 Surveyed by: Dr Peter Sturgess (Hyder Consulting Ltd.)	
(UDP policy reference: C11.115)	
Summary description	
<p>The eastern part of this SINC is a south-facing slope supporting heath and acid grassland, grading into scrubby woodland with Oak, Beech, Alder and Downy birch. To the west, this grades into a mix of Bracken, semi-improved acid grassland and marshy grassland. A small, disused quarry is present in the centre of the site with acid grassland on the adjacent spoil heaps. The marshy grassland areas are dominated by a mix of Soft rush, Purple moor-grass and Greater tussock-sedge, and support a diverse range of associated wetland plants.</p>	
Qualifying features	
<p>Acid grassland and heath with at least 7 indicator species.</p> <p>Marshy grassland / flush vegetation with at least 12 indicator species.</p>	
Secondary features	
<p>Bracken.</p> <p>Rock outcrop.</p> <p>Scrub.</p>	
Potential value/ unconfirmed features	
<p>The site is likely to support good numbers of reptiles.</p> <p>The site is likely to be used by foraging bats and there is some potential for roosting in the woodland and quarry areas.</p> <p>The area is likely to support additional plant species with nature conservation value. In particular, the flushes and former quarry have potential to support uncommon bryophytes and lichens.</p> <p>The short semi-improved acid grassland is likely to support waxcap fungi.</p>	
Current management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement)	
<p>The majority of the site appears to be grazed by sheep and possibly horses (there no livestock present during the survey). The scrub woodland appears to be ungrazed, although Rabbits graze the upper slopes. Bracken and scrub are locally dominant, and there is a possibility that these could continue to encroach at the expense of more diverse habitats. Bracken control would probably be beneficial for biodiversity.</p>	
Access/ community use	
<p>There is no formal public access to the site, although a road passes its southern and western sides.</p>	

Additional information

The fields adjoining the northeast side of the SINC support semi-improved grassland, which is likely to hold some features of value for nature conservation (*Campanula rotundifolia* was noted at ST115917, and the fields at ST116916 appear ideal for waxcap fungi). Aerial photographs and views across the valley indicate several nearby areas that may be of value for nature conservation, including the Glan Nant stream and its adjoining marshy grasslands at ST120917, and the disused workings at ST118910 and ST111903. These areas 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*)

Tree and shrub species: *Crataegus monogyna*, *Quercus petraea*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Betula pubescens*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Corylus avellana*, *Ulex gallii*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Salix cinerea*.

Heath and acid grassland species: *Calluna vulgaris*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Galium saxatile*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Pilosella officinarum*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Hypochaeris radicata*, *Viola riviniana*, *Linum catharticum*, *Ulex gallii*, *Leontodon hispidus*, *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Nardus stricta*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Festuca ovina*, *Danthonia decumbens*, *Aira praecox*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Rhytidadelphus squarrosus*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Scleropodium purum*, *Dicranum scoparium*, *Cladonia* sp., *Peltigera* sp..

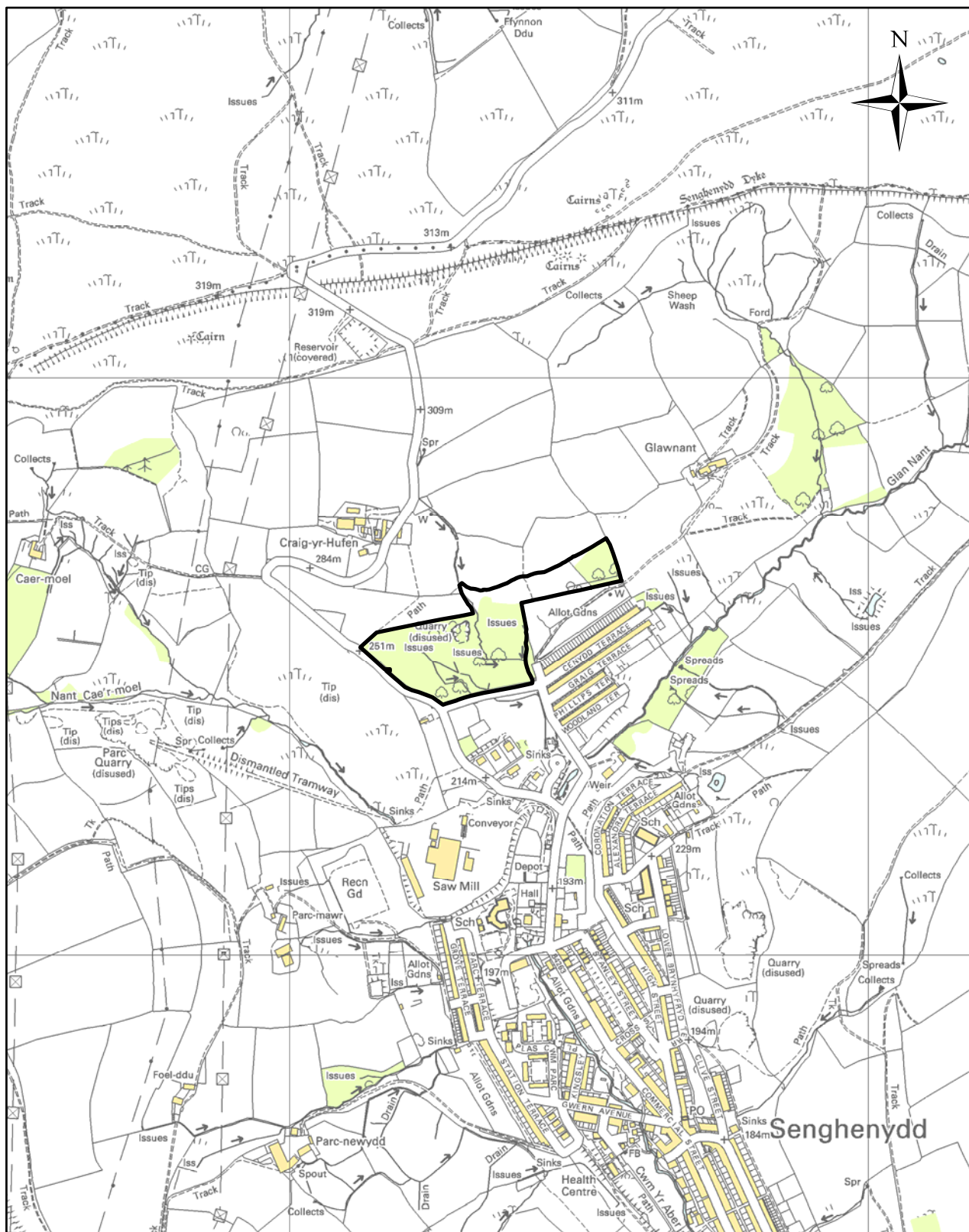
Marshy grassland species: *Ranunculus flammula*, *Viola palustris*, *Wahlenbergia hederacea*, *Anagallis tenella*, *Galium palustre*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Hypericum tetrapterum*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Valeriana officinalis*, *Cardamine pratensis*, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Angelica sylvestris*, *iris pseudacorus*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Myosotis* sp., *Epilobium palustre*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Agrostis stolonifera*, *Phalaris arundinacea*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Carex echinata*, *Carex paniculata*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus effusus*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Sphagnum subnitens*, *Sphagnum palustre*, *Sphagnum squarrosum*, *Sphagnum denticulatum*, *Polytrichum commune*, *Aulacomnium palustre*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*, *Calypogeia muelleriana*.

Fauna observations: **Buzzard**, **Green Woodpecker**, *Robin*, *Blackbird*, *Chiffchaff*, *Linnet*, *Blue Tit*, *Meadow Pipit*, *Starling*, *Chaffinch*, *Meadow Brown Butterfly*, *Small Heath Butterfly*, *Speckled Wood Butterfly*.

Additional records from desk study: **Bat** roost in nearby residential property.

Caerphilly County Borough Council
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
LDP Policy Ref: NH 3.162 (SINC 115)
Glawnant Field, Senghenydd 5 Ha

1:10,000



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