

<b>Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Caerphilly County Borough Council</b>	
<b><u>LDP Policy Ref. NH 3.121</u></b>	<b>SINC name: Tai'r-waun Meadows, north of Senghenydd</b>
<b>Grid Reference ST107933</b>	<b>Area (hectares): 17</b>
<b>Survey date: 11<sup>th</sup> September 2007    Surveyed by: Dr Peter Sturgess (Hyder Consulting Ltd.)</b>	
<b>(UDP policy reference: C11.116)</b>	
<b>Summary description</b>	
<p>The SINC is centred along the wooded valley of the Nant Cae-dudwg stream, some of which is classified as ancient woodland. The canopy comprises mainly Sessile oak, Alder, Beech, Rowan and Hazel, and the ground flora includes Wood sorrel, Bluebell, Wood avens and Enchanter's nightshade. The woodland in the southwest of the SINC includes some Larch plantation, but this still supports semi-natural indicator species in it's ground flora. The fields joining the southern bank of the wood support semi-improved acid grassland. The fields in the northeast of the SINC support a mix of marshy grassland and semi-improved acid grassland, with local patches of flush vegetation and a few scattered trees. The flora in the more diverse areas includes Meadow thistle, Ivy-leaved bellflower, Bog pimpernel and Marshy pennywort.</p>	
<b>Qualifying features</b>	
<p>Broadleaved woodland and ancient woodland with an assemblage of semi-natural indicators.</p> <p>Marshy grassland / flush with at least 14 indicator species.</p>	
<b>Secondary features</b>	
<p>Stream.</p> <p>Semi-improved acid grassland.</p> <p>Scrub.</p>	
<b>Potential value/ unconfirmed features</b>	
<p>The stream and associated trees has potential for use by roosting and foraging bats.</p> <p>Water voles have been recorded here in the recent past, and this species may still be present.</p>	
<b>Current management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement)</b>	
<p>Horses lightly graze the woods and fields to the south of the stream and sheep, cattle and horses graze the woodland and fields to the north of the stream. The intensity of grazing by sheep appears to be too heavy to sustain the diverse flora and a reduction in sheep numbers would be beneficial for biodiversity. Some trees are also suffering from bark damage by livestock. A reduction in grazing pressure would allow the regeneration of woodland trees. There appears to have been drainage work carried out in the northeastern fields since previous surveys, which has had a detrimental impact. No further drainage of wet areas and an appropriate stocking density would enhance this site for biodiversity.</p>	
<b>Access/ community use</b>	
<p>A public footpath passes through the woodland following the course of the stream. There is no public access to the rest of the site.</p>	

### Additional information

Appropriate management of this site would maintain and enhance its biodiversity value, including a reduction in grazing pressure and no further drainage of wet areas. The woodland habitat continues along the stream beyond the western boundary of the SINC. Consideration should be given to extending the SINC as far as the county boundary at future 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: *Quercus petraea*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Corylus avellana*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Larix sp.*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Ulex europaeus*, *Betula pubescens*, *Salix cinerea*, *Salix caprea*, *Rubus fruticosus*.

Woodland ground flora species: *Oxalis acetosella*, ***Hyacinthoides non-scripta***, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Geum urbanum*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Rubus idaeus*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Viola riviniana*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Holcus mollis*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Juncus effusus*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Polytrichum formosum*, *Mnium hornum*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Rhytidiadelphus loreus*.

Marshy grassland and flush species (combined list for north-eastern fields ST106934): [NB Whole area was not covered due to bull in field]. *Ranunculus flammula*, *Persicaria hydropiper*, *Stellaria alsine*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Wahlenbergia hederacea*, *Cardamine pratensis*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, *Lythrum portula*, *Epilobium palustre*, *Cirsium dissectum*, *Anagallis tenella*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Potentilla anserina*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Glyceria fluitans*, *Agrostis stolonifera*, *Carex panicea*, *Carex viridula*, *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Juncus bufonius*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*, *Sphagnum cf inundatum*.

Fauna observations: Grey Squirrel, **Buzzard**, Jay, Nuthatch, Mistle Thrush, Speckled Wood Butterfly.

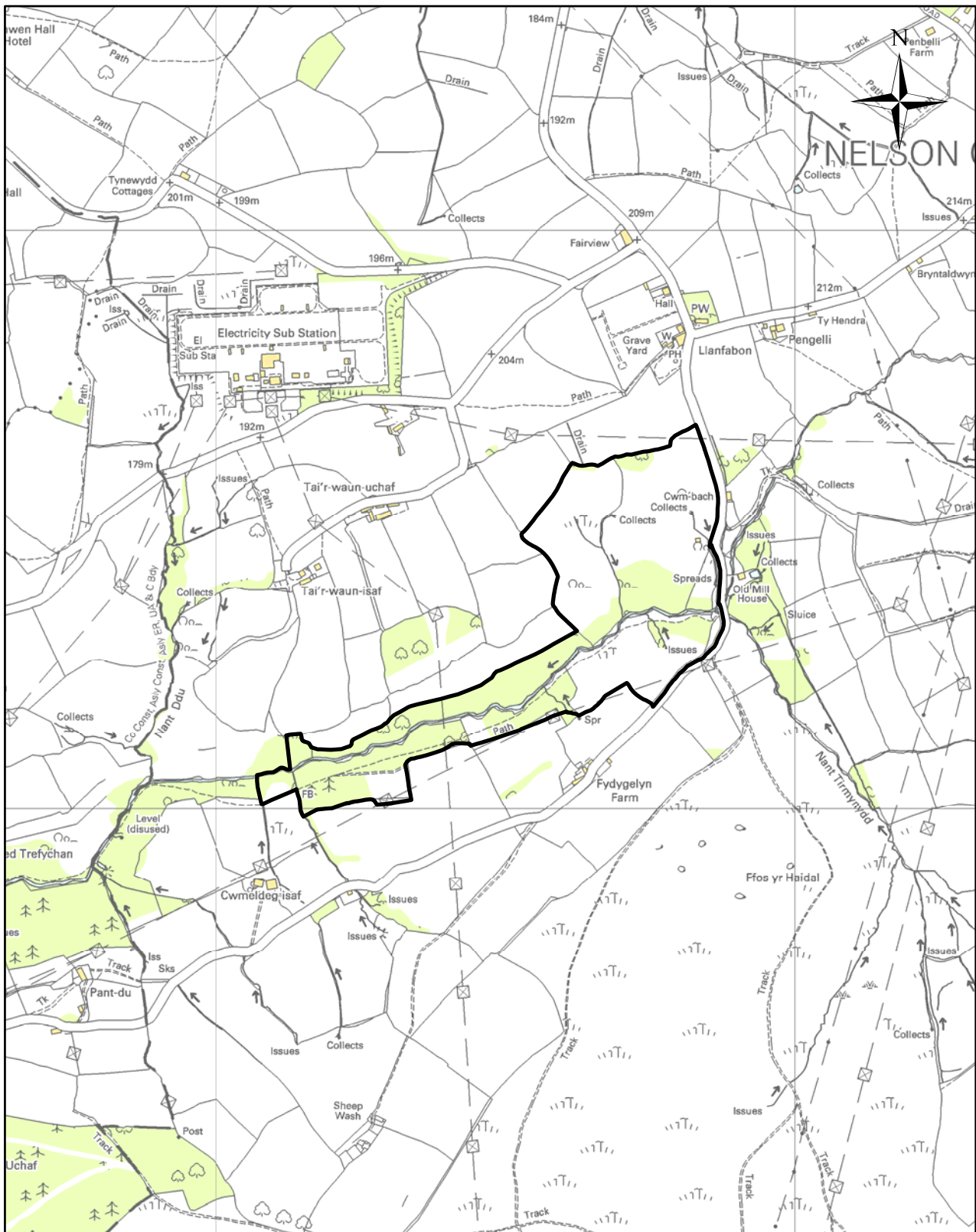
Additional records from desk study: **Water Vole, Yellowhammer, Kestrel, Green Woodpecker, Dipper**, *Epipactis palustris*, *Carex spicata*, *Eriophorum latifolium*, *Erica tetralix*, *Hypericum humifusum*, *Luzula multiflora*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Viola palustris*, *Valeriana officinalis*.

Additional plant records from north-eastern fields: *Succisa pratensis*, *Narthecium ossifragum*, *Pedicularis sylvatica*, *Angelica sylvestris*, ***Dactylorhiza maculata***, *Carex nigra*, *Carex echinata*, *Potamogeton polygonifolius*, *Trichophorum cespitosum*, *Eriophorum angustifolium*, *Lychnis flos-cuculi*, *Galium palustre*, *Ranunculus omiophyllus*, *Pimpinella saxifraga*.

Caerphilly County Borough Council  
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation  
LDP Policy Ref: NH 3.121 (SINC 116)

1:10,000

Land at Tair Waun Uchaf Isaf and Cwmheldeg Farm 17 Ha



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