

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Caerphilly County Borough Council	
<u>LDP Policy Ref. NH 3.139</u>	SINC name: Cwm-y-nant, Risca.
Grid reference: ST242913	Area (hectares): 5
Survey date: 18th April 2007	Surveyed by: Dr Peter Sturgess (Hyder Consulting Ltd.)
(UDP policy reference: C11.148)	
Summary description	
Small, damp, broadleaved woodland, with a canopy of Oak, Hazel and Alder, and a ground flora dominated by Bluebells. In the northern part there is a clearing dominated by Bracken, and a small, sheep-grazed field of semi-improved acid grassland that includes a small area of flush vegetation.	
Qualifying features	
Semi-natural woodland with a range of woodland indicators.	
Secondary features	
Semi-improved acid grassland.	
Marshy grassland.	
Bracken.	
Scrub.	
Stream.	
Potential value/ unconfirmed features	
Likely to provide good foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.	
The small field in the north of the site may support waxcap fungi.	
The woodland appears potentially suitable for Dormice.	
Current management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement)	
The woodland generally appears to be unmanaged. Sheep graze the northern field. Problems include litter, vandalism, air guns and fires. Japanese knotweed occurs beside the stream at the southern boundary and it would be beneficial to remove this species.	
Access/ community use	
A public footpath crosses the north of the site. There is no formal public access to most of the site, but there are numerous informal paths within the woodland.	
Additional information	
Some of the fields to the east of the site support anthills and appear potentially suitable for waxcap fungi. These should be considered at future SINC review and if additional survey information becomes available.	

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 canopy and shrub species: *Quercus robur*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Corylus avellana*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Lonicera periclymenum*, *Betula pubescens*, *Rubus fruticosus*, *Ilex aquifolium*, *Sorbus aucuparia*, *Acer campestre*, *Salix caprea*, *Rosa canina*, *Acer pseudoplatanus*, *Prunus avium*, *Malus sylvestris*, *Viburnum opulus*, *Fagus sylvatica*.

Woodland and scrub ground flora species: ***Hyacinthoides non-scripta***, *Allium ursinum*, *Anemone nemorosa*, *Geum urbanum*, *Circaea lutetiana*, *Lamium galeobdolon*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Arum maculatum*, *Ranunculus ficaria*, *Viola riviniana*, *Conopodium majus*, *Oenanthe crocata*, *Carex sylvatica*, *Carex remota*, *Viola reichenbachiana*, *Oxalis acetosella*, *Brachypodium sylvaticum*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Polystichum setiferum*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Dryopteris filix-mas*, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, *Kindbergia praelonga*, *Isoetes macrospora*, *Atrichum undulatum*.

Semi-improved grassland species in north of area: *Agrostis capillaris*, *Luzula campestris*, *Festuca rubra*, *Danthonia decumbens*, *Pilosella officinarum*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Holcus lanatus*, *Viola riviniana*, *Plantago lanceolata*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Potentilla sterilis*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Galium saxatile*, ***Hyacinthoides non-scripta***, *Stellaria graminea*, *Carex caryophylla*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Rhynchospora squarrosa*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *Pleurozium schreberi*.

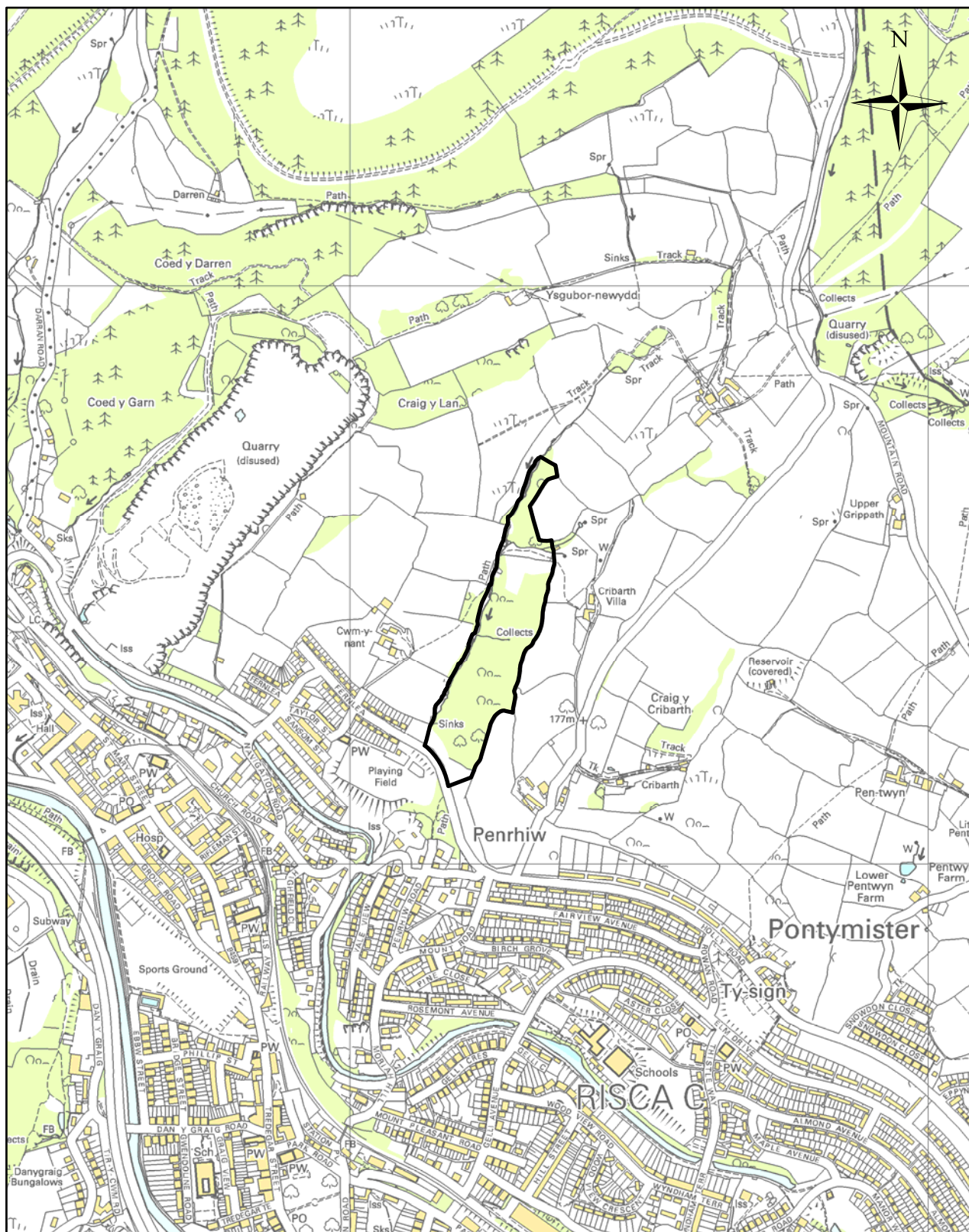
Marshy grassland species in north of area: *Juncus effusus*, *Juncus acutiflorus*, *Ranunculus flammula*, *Cardamine pratensis*, *Anagallis tenella*, *Lysimachia nemorum*, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Lychnis flos-cuculi*, *Ajuga reptans*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Galium palustre*, *Juncus bulbosus*, *Juncus inflexus*, *Carex cf panicea*, *Carex sp. (indeterminate)*, *Calliergonella cuspidata*.

Fauna observations: *Nuthatch*, *Blue Tit*, *Coal Tit*, ***House Sparrow***, *Grey Squirrel*, *Mole*, *Orange-tip Butterfly*, *Speckled Wood Butterfly*.

Additional records from desk study: *Ulmus glabra*, *Frangula alnus*, *Centaurea scabiosa*.

Caerphilly County Borough Council
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
LDP Policy Ref: NH 3.139 (SINC 148)
Cwm-y-Nant, Risca 5 Ha

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