Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Caerphilly County Borough Council

<u>LDP Policy Ref. NH 3.189</u> SINC name: Cwm-Crynant Woodland, south of Rudry

Grid reference: ST205854 Area (hectares): 8

Survey date: 5th April 2007 Surveyed by: Dr Peter Sturgess (Hyder Consulting Ltd.)

(UDP policy reference: C11.182)

Summary description

Old broadleaved woodland, dominated by Ash, Alder, Oak and Beech, and a wooded stream corridor. Hazel and Bramble form the majority of the under storey. In the northern part the stream lies within a steep-sided valley, with natural cascades over moss-covered rock exposures. It then passes through a more level area of wet woodland. A good range of semi-natural woodland indicators occur in the ground flora throughout the site.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Presence of Dormouse.

Secondary features

Stream.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Likely to provide good foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.

There is a past record of freshwater White-clawed crayfish from the stream in the east of the area.

Otters may forage along the stream, at least occasionally.

Current management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement)

No signs of current woodland management. Woodland has been coppiced below overhead cables.

Access/ community use

There is no formal public access to the area, although some signs of informal recreational use were noted in Coed Gwineu.

Additional information

Two wooded stream corridors joining from the north of the stream were not surveyed, but these may also meet the SINC selection criteria (particularly for use by Dormice). These 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 canopy and shrub species: Alnus glutinosa, Quercus robur, Fraxinus excelsior, Corylus avellana, Betula pubescens, Betula pendula, Rubus fruticosus, Fagus sylvatica, Lonicera periclymenum, Crataegus monogyna, Acer pseudoplatanus, Ilex aquifolium, Prunus spinosa, Acer campestre, Prunus avium, Salix caprea, Rosa canina, Taxus baccata, Malus cf sylvestris.

Ground flora species: Hyacinthoides non-scripta, Allium ursinum, Anemone nemorosa, Primula vulgaris, Mercurialis perennis, Ranunculus ficaria, Arum maculatum, Circaea lutetiana, Oxalis acetosella, Chrysosplenium oppositifolium, Valeriana dioica, Viola riviniana, Viola reichenbachiana, Lamiastrum galeobdolon, Sanicula europaea, Angelica sylvestris, Galium odoratum, Adoxa moschatellina, Geum urbanum, Cardamine hirsuta, Stachys sylvatica, Filipendula ulmaria, Lysimachia nemorum, Deschampsia cespitosa, Carex sylvatica, Carex remota, Carex pendula, Athyrium filix-femina, Polystichum setiferum, Dryopteris dilatata, Drypteris filix-mas, Dryopteris affine, Blechnum spicant, Mnium hornum, Kindbergia praelonga, Thuidium tamariscinum, Polytrichum formosum, Isothecium myosuroides, Rhynchostegium riparioides, Atrichum undulatum, Conocephalum sp., Pellia sp.

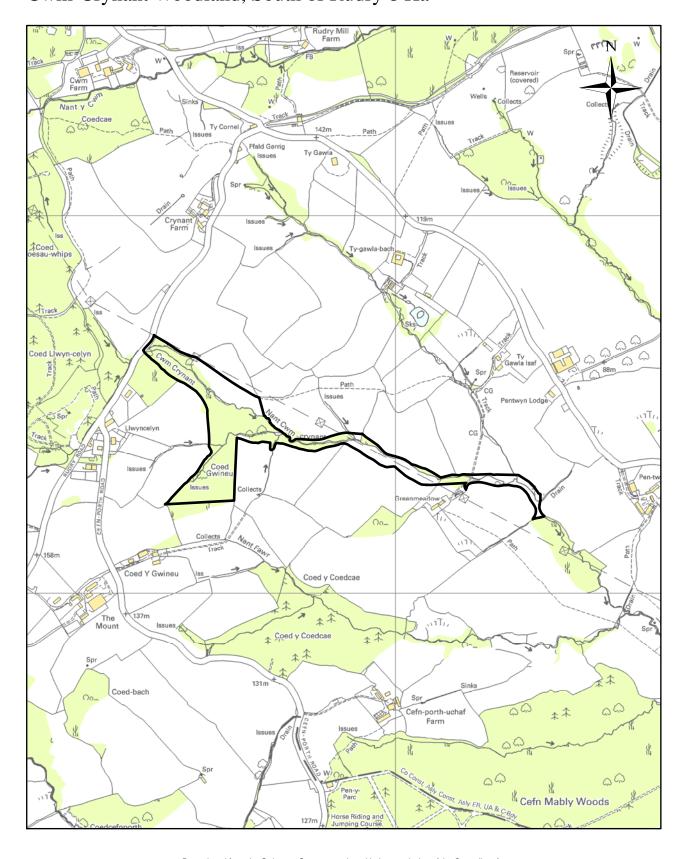
Streamside vegetation in cleared area below overhead cables: Veronica beccabunga, Veronica chamaedrys, Athyrium filix-femina, Valeriana officinalis, Adoxa moschatellina, Filipendula ulmaria, Apium nodiflorum, Digitalis purpurea, Ajuga reptans, Pteridium aquilinum, Cirsium palustre, Stellaria alsine, Chrysosplenium oppositifolium, Galium palustre.

<u>Fauna observations:</u> **Dormouse**, *Badger*, Fox, Rabbit, Grey Squirrel, *Buzzard*, Nuthatch, Chiffchaff, Wood Pigeon, Mistle Thrush, **Song Thrush**, Jay, Great Tit, Coal Tit, Wren, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Blackbird, *Bullfinch*, Chaffinch, Brimstone Butterfly, Peacock Butterfly, Comma Butterfly.

Additional records from desk study: White-clawed Crayfish (from the stream east of the SINC)

Caerphilly County Borough Council Site of Importance for Nature Conservation LDP Policy Ref: NH 3.189 (SINC 182) Cwm-Crynant Woodland, South of Rudry 8 Ha

1:10,000



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