Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Caerphilly County Borough Council

<u>LDP Policy Ref. NH 3.181</u> SINC name: Coedcefnporth, Cefn Mably

Grid reference: ST201845 Area (hectares): 8

Survey date: 11th April 2007 Surveyed by: Dr Peter Sturgess (Hyder Consulting Ltd.)

(UDP policy reference: C11.186)

Summary description

Damp woodland with a canopy of Alder, Pedunculate oak, Ash and Beech, and occasional Sycamore. There is an understorey of Hazel, Hawthorn, Holly and Bramble. The woodland ground flora includes several semi-natural woodland indicator species, although the diversity is locally fairly low due to grazing by sheep and cattle in some parts. A small stream, fringed by Alders, flows along the site boundary.

Qualifying features

Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.

Secondary features

Stream.

Pond.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

Potential habitat for Dormouse.

Likely to provide good foraging and roosting opportunities for bats.

Pond may provide habitat for amphibians.

Current management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement)

No evidence of active woodland management. Formerly use for pheasant rearing. Fencing out livestock would be beneficial for biodiversity.

Access/ community use

No evidence of use by the public.

Additional information

None.

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, Fraxinus excelsior, Corylus avellana, Quercus robur, Fagus sylvatica, Lonicera periclymenum, Betula pubescens, Rubus fruticosus, Crataegus monogyna, Prunus spinosa, Acer pseudoplatanus, Acer campestre, Salix caprea, Ilex aquifolium, Salix cf fragilis, Salix cinerea, Sorbus aucuparia, Rosa canina.

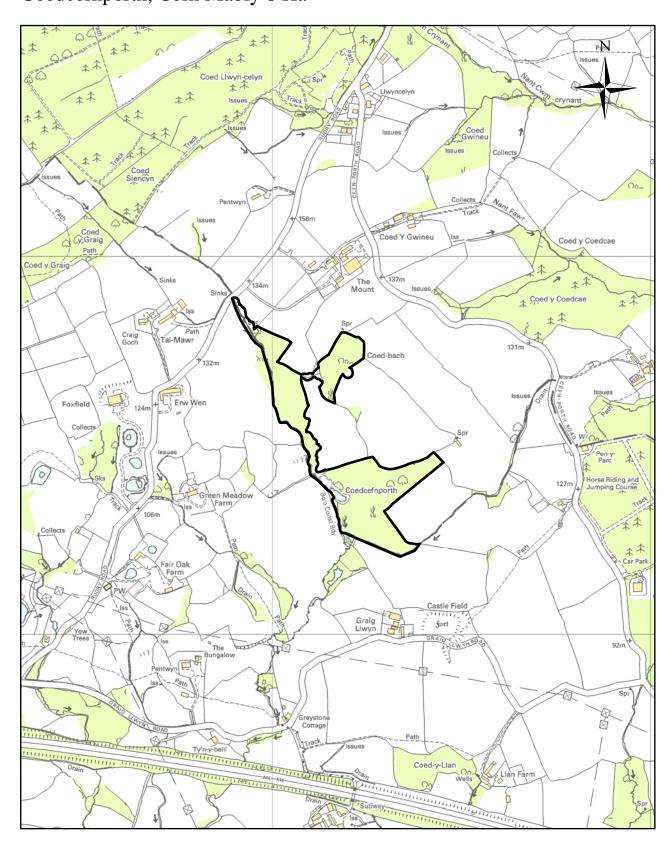
<u>Woodland ground flora species:</u> Ranunculus ficaria, Arum maculatum, Circaea lutetiana, Oxalis acetosella, **Hyacinthoides non-scripta**, Anemone nemorosa, Chrysosplenium oppositifolium, Primula vulgaris, Valeriana dioica, Viola riviniana, Viola reichenbachiana, Lamiastrum galeobdolon,

Rumex sanguineus, Geum urbanum. Deschampsia cespitosa, Carex sylvatica, Carex remota, Dryopteris dilatata, Drypteris filix-mas, Blechnum spicant, Athyrium filix-femina, Mnium hornum, Kindbergia praelonga, Thuidium tamariscinum, Polytrichum formosum, Pellia sp., Conocephalum conicum.

Wetland species limited to the stream margins and pond: Oenanthe crocata, Typha latifolia, Iris pseudacorus.

<u>Fauna observations:</u> **Buzzard**, **Badger**, Grey Squirrel, Great Tit, Coal Tit, Nuthatch, Wren, Tree Creeper, Mallard, Pheasant.

Additional species noted from desk study: Frangula alnus, Prunus padus, Silene noctiflora.



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