

# Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

## SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME: Cefn Ila Woodland Trust Orchard

GRID REF: S O 3 6 1 0 0 7

SURVEYOR(S): Andv Karran

SIZE (approx.): 1.75ha

DATE OF SURVEY: 30/08/13

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA: Monmouthshire

WARD: Llanbadoc

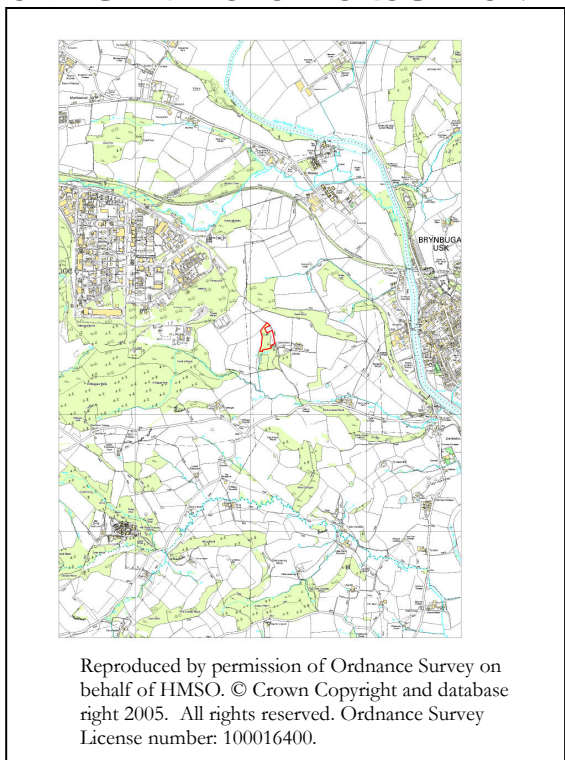
**MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:**

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)

**LBAP PRIORITY HABITATS/SPECIES PRESENT?**

Veteran tree & traditional orchards

**SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:**



**FULL DESCRIPTION OF SITE (including topography, adjacent land use, access and boundaries etc.):**

An orchard situated within sloping rough grassland. The land slopes downwards from both the east and west side to a low point close to the western edge. Woodland lies to the south, grassland recently planted with trees to the north & west and a track and improved grassland to the east. There is a walled garden at the northern end which is separate from the orchard. The orchard comprises old Apples and Pears with a stand of Cherry also present in one localised area. Much of the orchard is on rough grassland that is being overtaken by Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* sp. agg.), thistle (*Cirsium* sp.) and Stinging Nettle (*Urtica dioica*) in places particularly on lower ground on the western side. The open grassland is largely coarse grasses (Cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*), Yorkshire Fog (*Holcus lanatus*)) and would be best classified as SI (species poor). There are however areas of better grassland on the more easterly (west facing slopes) with indicators such as Common Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), Lesser Stitchwort (*Stellaria graminea*), Meadow Vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*), Imperforate & Perforate St. Johns Wort (*Hypericum maculatum & perforatum*), Birdsfoot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), Catsear (*Hypochaeris radicata*) and Burnet Saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*) being present. The fruit trees are of a considerable age & size with some areas of dead wood, hollows etc. but are generally in good health. Only two dead fruit trees are evident, these have been left lying on the ground.

Orchard:

- 5 or more cultivated fruit or nut trees, crown edges no more than 20m apart - **Y**
- Being of a traditional structure which may currently be or have been managed in a traditional way - **Y**
- Old trees plus two of the following - **Y**
  - Standing deadwood - **Y**
  - Fallen deadwood - **Y**
  - Cavities - **Y**

**Official Use Only:** Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES  NO  Date: 22/10/13

# DETAILED SITE INFORMATION

SITE OWNERSHIP: Including names of any tenants/graziers Name(s)

Name(s)			
Addresses			
Tel.no.		Mobile:	

Please log all landowner/tenant contact starting from the initial permission for access to survey

Date	Contact	Discussion subjects/decisions made

Is/are the owner(s)	i) aware of the site's nature conservation value? Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	ii) managing the land sympathetically? Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	iii) willing to manage the land sympathetically? Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y

Describe the access to the site:

Park at the Cefn Ila Woodland Car Park and then walk up hill through site.

Are there any public rights of way on the site?

**No**

If so please describe their location:

Cefn Ila Woodland Site is open to the public.

What is the current management at the site?

Signage says that orchard area is Goat grazed. There was no evidence of this at time of survey however.

Are there any threats to the site?

All trees are of considerable age with no younger planting to ensure long-term survival of orchard.

Are there any invasive species present?

Bramble (also thistles and nettles) are invading the grassland.

Are there any protected species present?

Immediately adjacent site is purpose built "bat house" which it is believed is for Lesser Horseshoe Bats which if present are highly likely to forage in orchard.

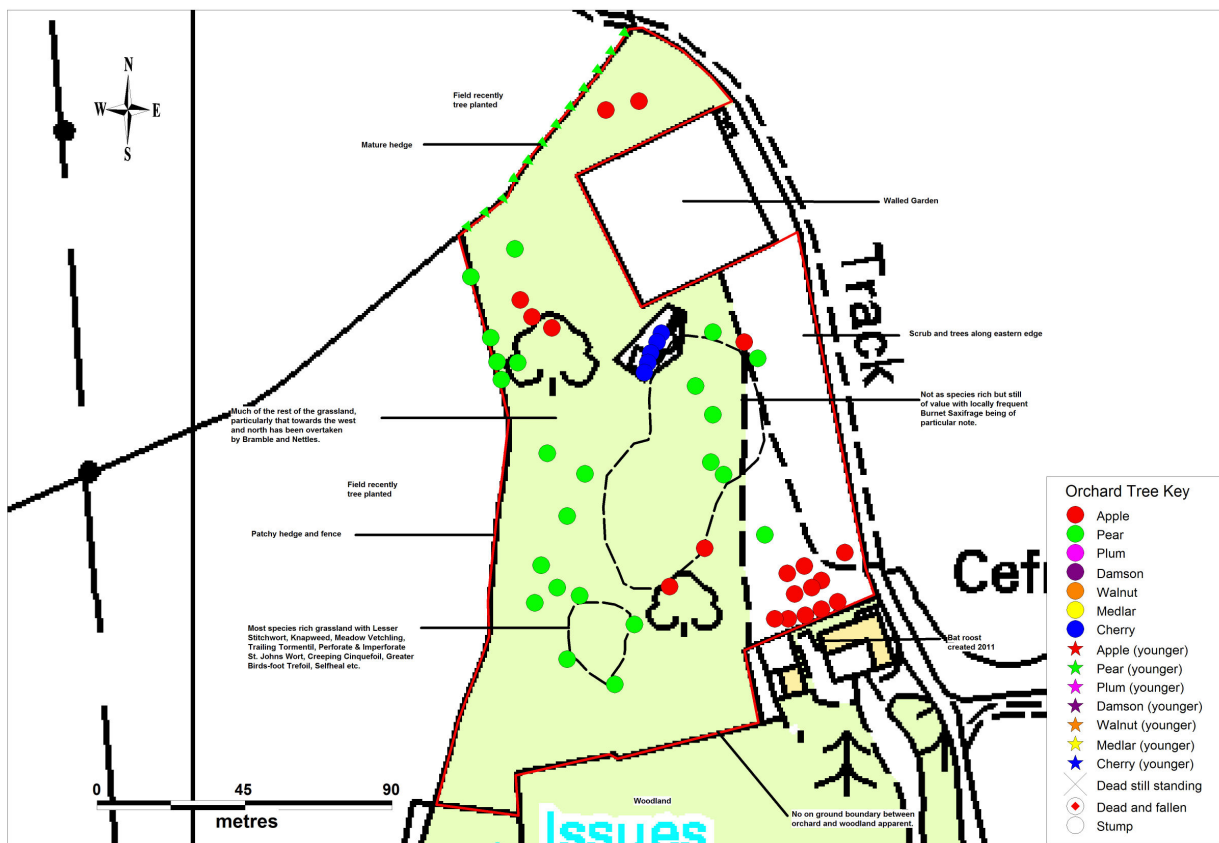
Please state the section(s) of the Wildlife Sites Guidance that this site qualifies under:

**H2) Parklands, Orchards and Veteran Trees – (Orchards)**

Is the site part of any grant schemes? Yes  No  Grant Scheme:.....End date.....

Does the site already have any designations? Yes  No  Designation:.....

Sketch map of site (including northpoint, scale and areas of the site of particular note):



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Please list all additional survey information both past and present that relates to this site:

- CCW Phase 1, 1991.
- Adventa Orchards Project
- PTES Orchard Project
- Gwent Orchards Project 2010-2012

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Site no.: WS/SO30/24

Please note: The data on this form may be held in accordance with the Gwent Wildlife Trust's registration under the Data Protection Act 1996

Summary of information from surveys undertaken during Gwent Orchards Project 2010-2012 supplemented by further information gained during Local Wildlife Site Surveys 2013.

**The appendix has been removed as it contains landowner information.**