

Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME: **Forest Hill Farm Pasture**

GRID REF: **S O 4 8 9 0 6 7**

SURVEYOR(S): **Andy Karran (Steven Heaton)**

SIZE (approx.): **c.5.88ha**

DATE OF SURVEY: **22/08/12 & 18/06/13**

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:

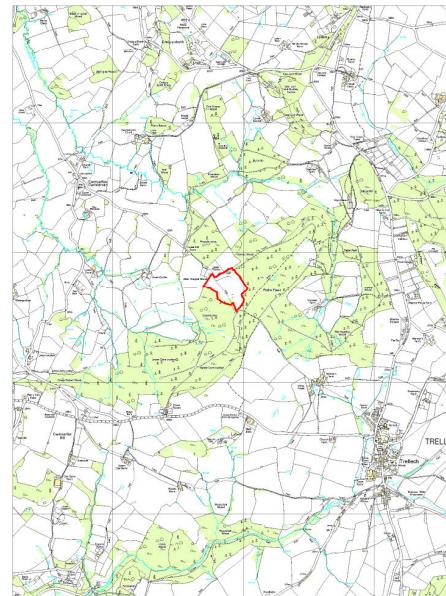
Monmouthshire

WARD: **Mitchel Troy**

MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

| Habitat types | NVC type | Area (ha) |
|----------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Species rich grassland (Acidic) | - | - |
| Species rich grassland (Neutral) | - | - |
| Marshy Grassland | - | - |
| Scattered trees and gorse | - | - |

SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



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LBAP PRIORITY HABITATS/SPECIES PRESENT?

Species-rich grassland

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

The site consists of a large field that slopes quite steeply downward from the east to the west. It is lightly horse grazed. The site is surrounded by Forestry Commission woodland to the south, west and east. To the north/north-west is further horse grazed pasture and Forest Hill Farm House and stables.

Most of the field appears to be neutral to slightly acidic, with the acidic influence generally increasing upslope to the east. There are also some smaller areas of damper habitat with characteristics of Marsh Grassland. Much of the field is relatively species rich and only semi-improved although areas towards the north-west are of a more improved nature. The field in general has many indicator species for both neutral and acid grassland including Common Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), Pignut (*Conopodium majus*), Eyebright (*Euphrasia officinalis agg.*), Tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), Red Clover (*Trifolium pratense*), Catsear (*Hypochaeris radicata*) and Heath Speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*).

In addition to the grassland there is a line of mature trees and some areas of Scrub (principally Gorse with Bramble, but also Bramble with Rosebay Willowherb).

Neutral Grassland: 20 indicator species.

Acid Grassland: 10 indicator species.

Marshy grassland: 12 indicator species (in one area surveyed, further species in other marshy areas within pastures)

Official Use Only: Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES v NO Date: 2/10/12 & 22/10/13

DETAILED SITE INFORMATION

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

Name(s)
Addresses

| | | |
|---------|--------------|---------|
| | | |
| Tel.no. | 01600 860940 | 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? **No**
 ii) managing the land sympathetically? **Yes**
 iii) willing to manage the land sympathetically? **Yes**

Describe the access to the site:

Via public footpath

Are there any public rights of way on the site? **Yes**
 If so please describe their location:

Public footpath runs through middle of the site.

What is the current management at the site?

Lightly grazed by horses

Are there any threats to the site?

Are there any invasive species present?

Gorse is invading grassland (pers com. With Mr Broughton) and also comparison of Aerial photographs C.2005 and latest Google Earth images.

Are there any protected species present?

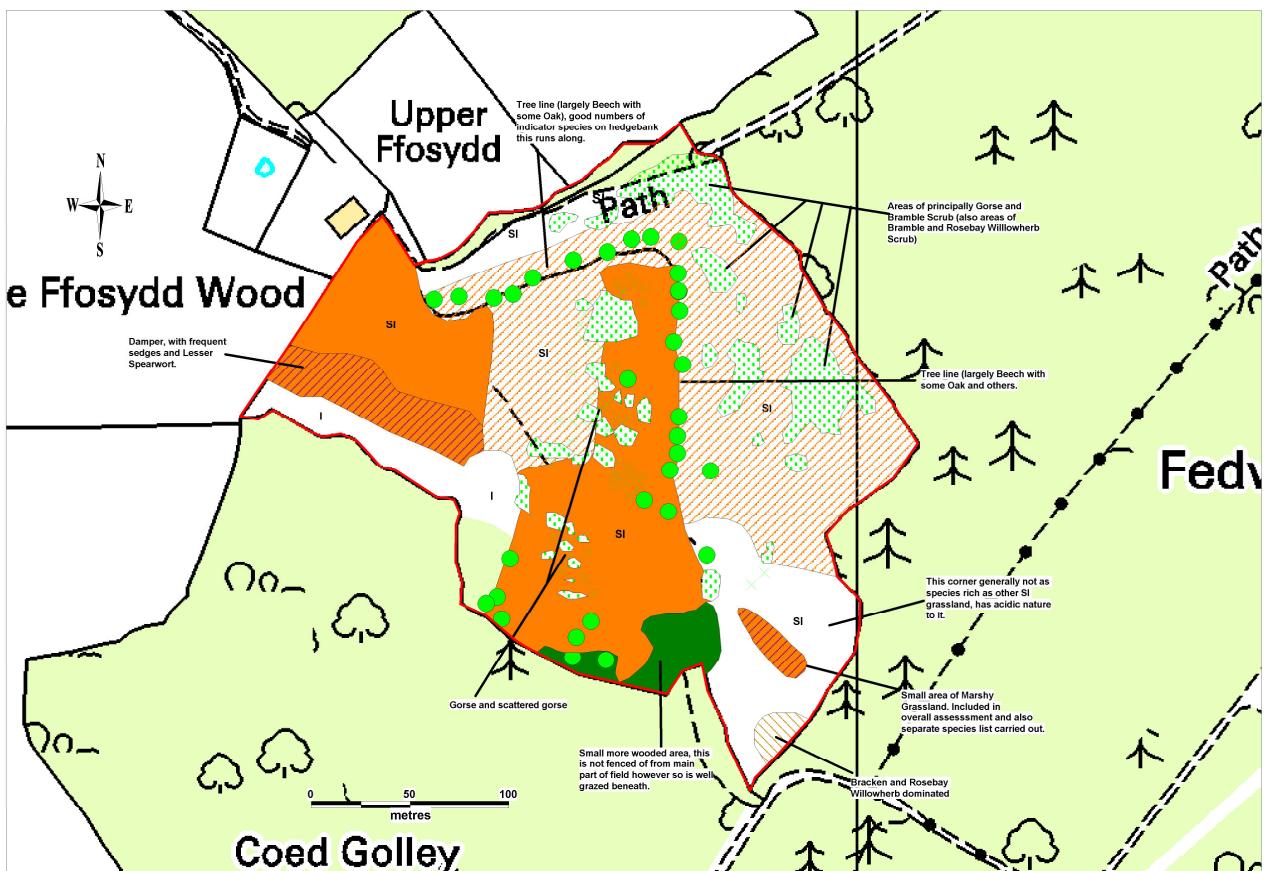
Please state the section(s) of the Wildlife Sites Guidance that this site qualifies under:

H4) Neutral grassland and H6) Acid grassland. Also to a more minor extent H7) Marshy Grassland

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 survey 1991; Improved grassland.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Site no.: WS/SO40/66

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

Species Lists

22/8/2012 (SH) &
18/6/13 (AK)

Forest Hill Farm Pasture

Total Field

D

| | | | | | |
|---|-------|---|--------|--|-------|
| Agrostis tenuis (common bent) | F | Erica tetralix (cross-leaved heath) | | Senecio aquaticus (marsh ragwort) | |
| Agrostis stolonifera (creeping bent) | F | Eupatorium cannabinum (hemp-agrimony) | | Senecio jacobaea (ragwort) | O |
| <i>Aira praecox</i> (early hair-grass) | | Euphorbia amygdaloides (wood spurge) | | Silaum silaus (pepper-saxifrage) | |
| Alopecurus geniculatus (marsh foxtail) | VL | Euphrasia officinalis agg. (eyebright) | LF | Stachys officinalis (betony) | |
| Alopecurus pratensis (meadow foxtail) | | Filipendula ulmaria (meadowsweet) | | Stachys palustris (marsh woundwort) | |
| Anthoxanthum odoratum(sweet vnl grass) | F/A | Fragaria vesca (wild strawberry) | | Stachys sylvatica (hedge woundwort) | R |
| Arrhenatherum elatius (false oat grass) | | Galium odoratum (sweet woodruff) | | Stellaria graminea (lesser stichwort) | O/VLF |
| Brachypodium pinnatum (tor grass) | | Galium palustre (marsh-bedstraw) | VL | Stellaria holostea (greater stichwort) | VL |
| Briza media (quaking grass) | | Galium saxatile (heath bedstraw) | LF/VLA | Succisa pratensis (devils bit-scabious) | LF |
| Bromopsis erecta (upright brome) | | Galium verum (lady's bedstraw) | | Taraxacum officinale (dandelion) | |
| Bromus commutatus (meadow brome) | | Genista tinctoria (dyers greenweed) | | Thymus polytrichus (wild thyme) | |
| Bromus racemosus (smooth brome) | | Geranium pratense (meadow cranes bill) | | Trifolium medium (zig zag clover) | |
| Cynosurus cristatus (crested dog's tail) | LF | Geranium robertianum (herb robert) | | Trifolium pratense (red clover) | LF |
| Dactylis glomerata (cock's foot) | VO | Glechoma hederacea (ground ivy) | | Trifolium repens (white clover) | LA |
| Danthonia decumbens (heath grass) | | Helianthemum nummularium (rock-rose) | | Tragopogon pratensis (goat's-beard) | |
| Deschampsia caespitosa (fhd hair grass) | VO | Heracleum sphondylium (hogweed) | | Vaccinium myrtillus (bilberry) | |
| Deschampsia flexuosa (wavy hair-grass) | | Hyacinthoides non-scripta (bluebell) | O/VLF | Valeriana dioica (marsh valerian) | |
| Eriophorum angustifolium(cmn ctnggrass) | | Hypericum maculatum(imp StJohns-Wort) | O/VLF | Valeriana officinalis (common valerian) | |
| Festuca ovina (sheep's fescue) | | Hypericum perforatum (pf St Johns-Wort) | VL | Veronica beccabunga (brooklime) | |
| Festuca rubra (red fescue) | O | Hypericum tetrapterum (sq.sd StJns-Wort) | R | Veronica chamaedrys (gemdr. speedwell) | O |
| Glyceria fluitans (floating sweet-grass) | | Hypochoeris glabra (smooth cats ear) | | Veronica officinalis (Heath speedwell) | LF |
| Helictotrichon pratense (mdw oat-grass) | | Hypochoeris radicata (common cats ear) | F | Vicia sativa (common vetch) | |
| Holcus lanatus (yorkshire fog) | F | Jasione montana (sheep's bit) | | Vicia sepium (bush vetch) | |
| Holcus mollis (creeping soft grass) | | Juncus acutiflorus (sharp-flowered rush) | VL | Viola canina (heath dog-violet) | |
| Lolium perenne (perennial rye grass) | R | Juncus articulatus (jointed rush) | VLA | Viola reichenbachiana (Early dog-violet) | |
| Milium effusum (wood millet) | | Juncus conglomeratus (compact rush) | O | Viola riviniana (common dog violet) | VO |
| Melica uniflora (wood mellick) | | Juncus effusus (soft rush) | VO | Wahlenbergia hederacea (ivy-lvd bl-flower) | |
| Molinia caerulea (purple moor-grass) | | Juncus inflexus (hard rush) | | | |
| Nardus stricta (mat grass) | | Juncus squarrosum (heath rush) | | Chamerion angustifolium (Rosebay Willowherb) | VLD |
| Phalaris arundinacea (reed canary grass) | | Juncus subnodulosus (blunt-flowered rush) | | Urtica dioica (Stinging Nettle) | VLA |
| Phleum pratense (timothy grass) | | Knautia arvensis (field scabious) | | Galium aparine (Cleavers) | VL |
| Poa annua (annual meadow grass) | | Lamiastrum galeobdolon (yellow archangel) | | Silene dioica (Red Campion) | VL |
| Poa trivialis (rough meadow grass) | O | Lathyrus nissolia (grass vetchling) | | Ceratocapnos claviculata (Climbing corydalis) | VL |
| Trisetum flavescens (yellow oat grass) | | Lathyrus pratensis (meadow vetchling) | | Digitalis purpurea (Foxglove) | VO |
| Achillea millefolium (yarrow) | O/VLF | Leontodon autumnalis (autumn hawkbit) | | Veronica montana (Wood Speedwell) | VL |
| Achillea ptarmica (sneezewort) | | Leontodon hispidus (rough hawkbit) | | Rosa canina (Dog Rose) | VO |
| Agrimonia eupatoria (agrimony) | | Leontodon saxatilis (lesser hawkbit) | | Moehringia trinervia (Three Nerved Sandwort) | VL |
| Ajuga reptans (bugle) | VL | Leucanthemum vulgare (oxeye daisy) | | Stellaria alsine (Bog Stitchwort) | R |
| Alchemilla filicaulis (lady's mantle) | | Linum catharticum (fairy flax) | | Teucrium scorodonia (Wood Sage) | VL |
| Alliaria petiolata (garlic mustard) | | Listera ovata (tway-blade orchid) | | Lysimachia nemorum (Yellow Pimpernel) | VO |
| Allium ursinum (ramsons) | | Lotus corniculatus (birds-foot trefoil) | F/LA | Primula vulgaris (Primrose) | VL |
| Anemone nemorosa (wood anemone) | | Lotus pedunculatus (greater birds-foot trefoil) | LF | Galeopsis tetrahit (Common Hemp Nettle) | R |
| Angelica sylvestris (wild angelica) | | Luzula campestris (field wood rush) | R | Epilobium parviflorum. (Hoary Willowherb) | VL |
| Blackstonia perfoliata (yellow-wort) | | Luzula multiflora (heath wood-rush) | LF | Dryopteris felix-mas (Male Fern) | R |
| Calluna vulgaris (ling heather) | | Lychnis flos-cuculi (ragged robin) | R | Dryopteris dilatata (Broad Buckler Fern) | R |
| Caltha palustris (marsh marigold) | | Melampyrum pratense (cow-wheat) | | Rubus idaeus (Raspberry) | R |
| Campanula rotundiflora (harebell) | O | Mentha aquatica (water mint) | VL | Epilobium tetragonum (Square Stalked Willowherb) | R |
| Campanula trachelium (net-lvd bellflower) | | Mercurialis perennis (dog's-mercury) | | Trifolium dubium (Lesser Trefoil) | VL |
| Cardamine pratensis (cuckoo flower) | VL | Myosotis arvensis (field forget-me-not) | | Bellis perennis (Daisy) | VLF |
| Carex caryophyllea (spring sedge) | | Narcissus pseudonarcissus (wild daffodill) | | Rumex obtusifolius (Broad Leaved Dock) | VLA |
| Carex disticha (brown sedge) | | Oenanthe crocata (hmlck water-dropwort) | | Carex pallescens (Pale Sedge) | VL |
| Carex divulsa (grey sedge) | | Ononis repens (common restarrow) | | Carex viridula (Yellow Sedge) | VO |
| Carex echinata (star sedge) | | Ophrys apifera (bee orchid) | | Luzula pilosa (Hairy Woodrush) | VL |
| Carex flacca (glaucous sedge) | VO | Orchis mascula (early purple orchid) | | Plantago major (Greater Plantain) | R |
| Carex nigra (common sedge) | VL | Orchis morio (green-winged orchid) | | Isolepis setacea (Bristle Club-rush) | VL |
| Carex ovalis (oval sedge) | VL | Pilosella officinarum (mse-ear hawkweed) | VL | Hypericum pulchrum (Slender St. Johns Wort) | O |
| Carex panicea (carnation sedge) | | Pimpinella saxifraga (burnet saxifrage) | | | |
| Carex pendula (pendulous sedge) | | Plantago lanceolata (ribwort plantain) | O/LF | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|--------|--|--------|---------------------------------|-------|
| Carex remota (distant sedge) | | Polygala serpyllifolia (heath milkwort) | | | |
| Carex riparia (greater pond-sedge) | | Polygala vulgaris (common milkwort) | | TREES AND SHRUBS | |
| Carex rostrata (bottle sedge) | | Potentilla anserina (silverweed) | | Fagus Sylvatica (Beech) | VLF |
| Carex spicata (spiked sedge) | | Potentilla erecta (tormentil) | LF/VLA | Fraxinus excelsior (Ash) | O |
| Carex sylvatica (wood sedge) | | Potentilla reptans (creeping cinquefoil) | | Quercus robur (Pedunculate Oak) | O |
| Centaurea nigra (common knapweed) | LF/LA | Potentilla sterilis (barren strawberry) | | Ulex europeaus (European Gorse) | LF/LD |
| Centaurea scabiosa (greater knapweed) | | Primula veris (cowslip) | | Cytisus scoparius (Broom) | R |
| Centaureum erythraea (cmnn centuary) | | Prunella vulgaris (self-heal) | O | Corylus avellana (Hazel) | R |
| Cerastium holosteoides(cmn. mouse-ear) | O | Pteridium aquilinum (bracken) | | Sambucus nigra (Elder) | O/VLF |
| Chrysosplenium oppositifolium (op.l.gsxfg) | | Pulicaria dysenterica (fleabane) | | Salix caprea (Goat Willow) | R |
| Cirsium arvense (creeping thistle) | O | Ranunculus acris (meadow buttercup) | F/LA | Sorbus aucuparia (Rowan) | R |
| Cirsium dissectum (meadow thistle) | | Ranunculus auricomus (gldcks buttercup) | | Betula pendula (Silver Birch) | R |
| Cirsium palustre (marsh thistle) | O | Ranunculus bulbosus (bulbous buttercup) | | Acer campestre (Field Maple) | R |
| Cirsium vulgare (spear thistle) | | Ranunculus flammula (lesser spearwort) | VLF | Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn) | VO |
| Conopodium majus (pignut) | VO/VLF | Ranunculus repens (creeping buttercup) | F/LA | | |
| Crepis capillaris (smooth hawks-beard) | | Rhinanthus minor (yellow rattle) | | Other Fauna | |
| Crepis biennis (rough hawks-beard) | | Rubus fruticosus (bramble) | VLA | Deer | |
| Dactylorhiza fuchsii (c. spotted orchid) | R | Rumex acetosa (common sorrel) | O | Rabbit | |
| Dactylorhiza praetermissa (s.msh orchid) | | Rumex acetosella (sheeps sorrel) | VLF | Tree Pipit | |
| Daucus carota (wild carrot) | | Sanguisorba minor (salad burnet) | | Linnet | |
| Equisetum arvense (field horsetail) | | Scabiosa columbaria (small scabious) | | Bullfinch | |
| Erica cinerea (bell-heather) | | Scrophularia nodosa (figwort) | | | |

Key to colour coding of grassland species list

Species in **Bold** equals indicator species for Neutral grasslands, species in **blue** equals indicator species for acid grasslands (bold and **blue** indicates it is an indicator of both) (please note other species in list may be indicator species for other grassland types and these have been taken in to account when assessing overall value of the site).

Species in **Bold and underlined** equals a species from the contributory species list.

Forest Hill Farm Pasture

Small Marshy Area near S.E.

Corner

18/6/13

D

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|--|----|
| Agrostis tenuis (common bent) | O | Epilobium parviflorum. (Hoary Willowherb) | R | Lotus pedunculatus (greater birds-foot trefoil) | F |
| Anthoxanthum odoratum(sweet vnl grass) | O | Epilobium tetragonum (Square Stalked Willowherb) | VL | Poa trivialis (rough meadow grass) | O |
| Cardamine pratensis (cuckoo flower) | VLF | Galium palustre (marsh-bedstraw) | VLF | Potentilla erecta (Tormentil) | R |
| Carex ovalis (oval sedge) | O | Holcus lanatus (yorkshire fog) | O | Prunella vulgaris (self-heal) | VO |
| Carex viridula (Yellow Sedge) | O | Hypericum tetrapetalum (sq.sd StJns-Wort) | R | Ranunculus acris (meadow buttercup) | F |
| Cerastium holosteoides(cmn. mouse-ear) | O | Juncus acutiflorus (sharp-flowered rush) | VO | Ranunculus flammula (lesser spearwort) | LF |
| Cirsium palustre (marsh thistle) | O | Juncus articulatus (jointed rush) | F | Ranunculus repens (creeping buttercup) | F |
| Cynosurus cristatus (crested dog's tail) | O | Juncus conglomeratus (compact rush) | O | Rumex obtusifolius (Broad Leaved Dock) | VO |
| Deschampsia caespitosa (ftd hair grass) | O | Juncus effusus (soft rush) | O | Stellaria alsine (Bog Stitchwort) | VL |

Key to colour coding of marshy grassland species list

Species in **Bold** equals indicator species for Marshy grasslands, (please note other species in list may be indicator species for other grassland types and these have been taken in to account when assessing overall value of the site).

Species in **Bold and underlined** equals a species from the contributory species list.