

Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form (WS/SO50/81)

SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME: The Beeches

GRID REF: S O 5 2 7 0 6 6

SURVEYOR(S): Dr Stephanie Tyler (MMG)

SIZE (approx.): c.2ha

DATE OF SURVEY: 13th March, 18th May 2011

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:
Monmouthshire

Trellech United

WARD:

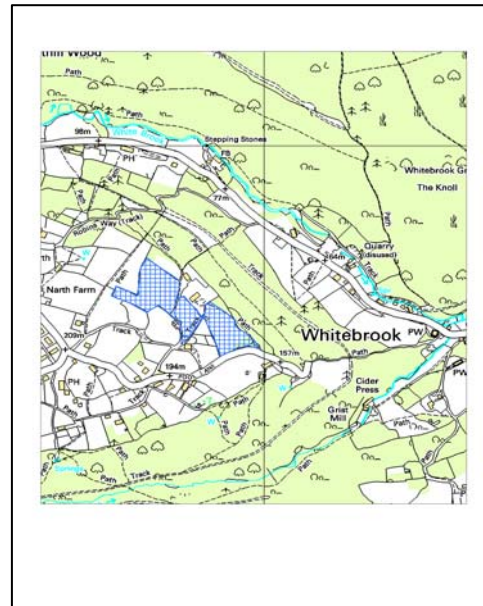
MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)
Species- rich neutral grassland	-	-

LBAP PRIORITY HABITATS/SPECIES PRESENT?

Species – rich grassland

SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



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

A collection of pastures, owned by wildlife friendly owners and located in The Narth. The site consists of about 7.5 acres of pastures in three fields with another smaller area sited above the woodland.

There is a lower field of c. 2 acres most of which has been heavily grazed by horses. An area which was fenced off with an electric fence is quite rank with cock's foot dominant. However, there are some common knapweed plants here and primroses on the bank closest to the house. Further up the hill on an east facing slope are two fields separated by a fenced footpath. The first is c. 3 acres and the second c. 1 acre. Both have become somewhat thatchy with dead grass.

Diverse hedgerows with many mature broad-leaved trees occur around all the fields.

With the landowners intending to manage the grassland sympathetically for biodiversity and on the basis of what is already recorded I believe the fields qualify as a Local Wildlife Site. Local Wildlife Sites occur on either side.

Taken as one unit the fields support 12 LWS grassland indicator species. The fields also support waxcap fungi interest, with a survey undertaken by Sheila Spence (Gwent Fungus Group).

Official Use Only: Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES NO Date: 2/2/12

DETAILED SITE INFORMATION

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

HELD BY GWT

Is/are the owner(s) i) aware of the site's nature conservation value? Yes No
ii) managing the land sympathetically? Yes No
iii) willing to manage the land sympathetically? Yes No Unknown

Describe the access to the site:

Access was gained with permission of the owners, who are Monmouthshire Meadows Group (MMG) members.

Are there any public rights of way on the site?

Yes No

If so please describe their location:

What is the current management at the site?

Part overgrazed but some parts also with a heavy thatch.

Are there any threats to the site?

Inconsistent management

Are there any invasive species present?

Are there any protected species present?

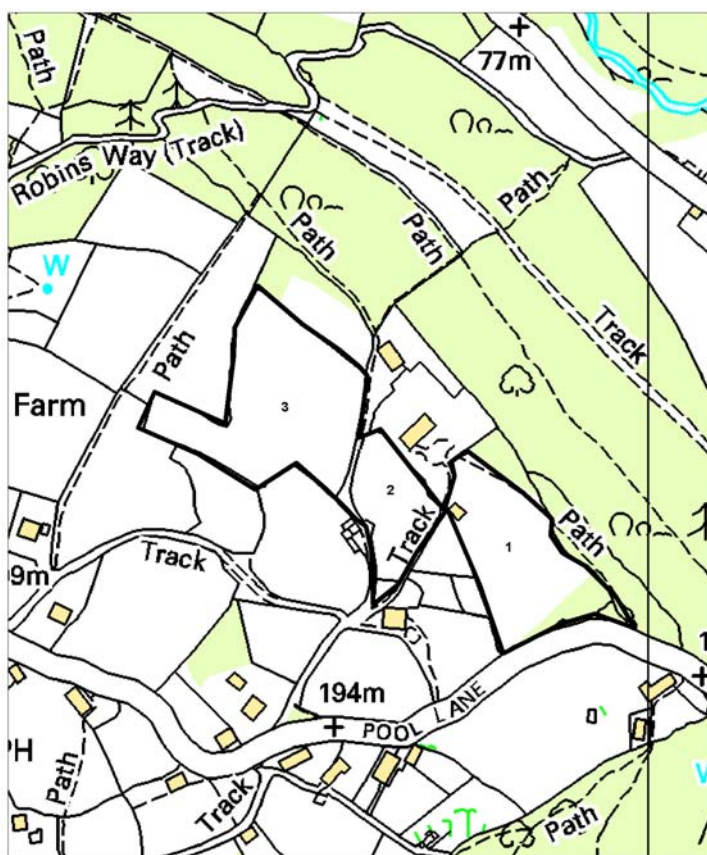
Please state the section(s) of the Wildlife Sites Guidance that this site qualifies under:

H4) Neutral Grasslands

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):



Fields 1 & 3 are botanically richest. Field 1 which slopes down to the woodland supports a good variety of grassland waxcap fungi.

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

CCW Phase 1 Survey (1991)

Steph Tyler, May 2011 –Survey Summary/Species list

OFFICE USE ONLY

Site no.:

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 LIST

The Beeches (Steph Tyler, 18 May 2011)

LWS grassland indicators species are shown in **bold**.

Grasses:

<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass (frequent in all fields)
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's tail
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot (scattered; F in ungrazed edge of bottom field)
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Rye Grass
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow Grass
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow Grass

Other Flowering plants:

<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle (on bank by top field)
<i>Alchemilla filicaulis subs. vestita</i>	Hairy Ladies Mantle (one plant in a top field)
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	Wood Anemone
<i>Centaureum nigra</i>	Knapweed
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear
<i>Cirsium repens</i>	Creeping Thistle
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle O
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut (LF in bottom field and larger top field)
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove (in wooded area of bottom field)
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cats Ear (on bank by top field)
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's foot Trefoil (patch in second field)
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Field Woodrush (F in bottom and larger top fields)
<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>	Yellow Pimpernel (bottom field)
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood Sorrel (bottom field)
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain (F)
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil
<i>Potentilla hybrid similar to</i>	<i>Potentilla anglica</i> (O)
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Barren Strawberry (F bottom field)
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose (F)
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip (F bottom field and bank by top field)
<i>Primula veris x vulgaris</i>	False Oxlip (one plant)
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self Heal (on bank by top field)
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup (LA)
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup (F)
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Buttercup (F)
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel (F)
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock (LF in small top field)
<i>Scilla non-scripta</i>	Bluebell (LA)
<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	Lesser Stitchwort (in larger of top fields)
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Hop Trefoil
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle (LF)
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Slender Speedwell
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch

Updated List, 2012

Species		Bottom field (1)	Small top field (2) and bank by track	Large top field (3)
<u>Grasses</u>				
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass	F	F	F
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	P	P	P
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's tail	P		P
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot	LF	F	F
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue		P	F
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog			F
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Rye Grass			O
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow Grass			O
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow Grass			F
<u>Other flowering plants</u>				
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>		R		
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle	O	O on bank	O
<i>Alchemilla filicaulis</i> subs. <i>vestita</i>	Hairy Ladies Mantle			R
<i>Allium ursinum</i>	<i>Wild Garlic</i>			LA
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	<i>Wood Anemone</i>	LF		O
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	R		
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckoo Flower		R	
<i>Centaurium nigra</i>	Knapweed	O		O
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear	O		O
<i>Cirsium repens</i>	<i>Creeping Thistle</i>	O		
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	O		
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle	O	O	
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut	LF		LF
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common Spotted Orchid	R (8 plants)		R (6 plants)
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove	LO		
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry	O		
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Cranesbill			
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert			R
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	O		
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy	P	P	P
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cats Ear		on bank	
<i>Juncus</i> sp.	Rush to be ID			R
<i>Lamiasstrum galeobdolon</i>	Yellow Archangel	LF		
<i>Lathyrus liniifolius</i>	Bitter Vetch			R
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling			O
<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	Rough Hawkbit			O
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's foot Trefoil	F		F
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater Bird's Foot Trefoil			O
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Field Woodrush	F		F
<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>	Yellow Pimpernel	O		
<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>	Wood Forget-me-not			R
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood Sorrel	O		
<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>	Lousewort			O
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	F	F	F
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	O		
<i>Potentilla hybrid</i>		O		
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Barren Strawberry	F		O
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose	F		
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	F	On bank	O
<i>Primula veris</i> x <i>vulgaris</i>	False Oxlip	one plant		
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self Heal		on bank	O
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Lesser Celandine	P	P	P
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	A	A	A
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	F	F	F
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Buttercup	F	O	R
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	F	F	F
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	O	LF	
<i>Scilla non-scripta</i>	Bluebell	LA	P at edges	LF
<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	<i>Lesser Stitchwort</i>			O
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater Stitchwort	LF		
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion	P	P	P

<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Hop Trefoil			O
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	F		O
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	O		
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle	P	LF	
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	F	O	F
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Slender Speedwell	F	P	F
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	F	P	F
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch		On bank	R
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Dog Violet	F		O

Also on site (but not in these three fields)

Curled Dock, Wood Dock, Square-stemmed Willowherb, Rosebay Willowherb, Broad-leaved Willowherb, Great Willowherb, Smooth Sowthistle, Field Forget-me-not, Welsh Poppy, Shining Cranesbill, Daisy, Common Figwort and Common Vetch.
And Dormouse.