

Q38 - Evaluation Criteria: Significance

- High
 - Wetland habitats such as this are quite scarce particularly of this size.

Q39 - Evaluation Criteria: Opportunity

- Low
 - Some potential for pollution control

Q40 - Evaluation Criteria: Expansion rates

- Unassessed

Q41 - Evaluation Criteria: Sensitivity

- High
 - All water/wet/damp habitats are particularly vulnerable to pollution.

Q42 - Evaluation Criteria: Connectivity/Cohesion

- High
 - Continuous waterbody

Q43 - Evaluation Criteria: Habitat Evaluation

- High
 - A valuable relatively scarce resource worthy of SSSI designation.

Q44 - Evaluation Criteria: Importance for key species

- High
 - A good number of valuable key species records as well as important numbers of more common species.

Q45 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species

- High
 - Evaluated as high for both factors.

Q45a - Justification of overall evaluation

- Importance is recognised by SSSI designation and the presence of a number of key species or important numbers of commoner species.

Bibliography

Q46 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- CCW Phase 1 data (digitised), Aerial photographs (digitised), OS Raster (1:10,000), Protected species information from Cofnod, Protected sites information from CCW (digitised), SINC sites provided by Ynys Mon County Council and Cofnod (digitised), Invasive plant mapping provided by Cofnod, Ynys Mon LBAP, Ynys Mon Unitary Development Plan, Protected Sites citations (provided by CCW), Protected Sites citations from the JNCC website (www.jncc.gov.uk), Soils of England and Wales 1:250,000 (Sheet 2 Wales).

Assessment

Q47 - Additional Assessments

- N/A

Q48 - Additional Comments

- N/A

SURVEY DETAILS FOR YNSMNLH019 - 2024-04-25

Area Unique ID: YNSMNLH019

Aspect: Landscape Habitats

Area: Mynydd Mechel

Region: Anglesey

Survey Date: 2007-10-30

- Level 1: Dry (Relatively) Terrestrial Habitats
- Level 2: Mosaic
- Level 3: Mosaic

Monitoring

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2016-01-15

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Stages 1, 2 and 3 change detection, field verification and amendment completed by Environment Systems in conjunction with the local planning authority. Quality Assurance completed by TACP.

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record remains unchanged following monitoring work

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- No

Q3 - What is the total land area within the boundary (in hectares)?

- 438 hectares

Description

Q4 - What are the dominant soil types? (specify up to 3 types)

- Brown soils

Q5 - What Phase 1 habitat types are present? Only select the five most dominant types and, for each of these, specify below what percentage of the Aspect Area is made up of these.

- Marshy Grassland
 - 4%
- Semi-improved Neutral Grassland
 - 8%
- Semi-improved Acid Grassland
 - 5%
- Improved Grassland
 - 45%
- Dry Heath/Acid Grassland Mosaic
 - 17%

Q6 - Does the area contain habitats of international importance?

- Yes

Q7 - If yes, which habitats of international importance?

- Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath
- Dry heaths

Q8 - Does the area contain BAP habitats?

- Yes

Q9 - If yes, which BAP habitats?

- Fens
- Reedbeds
- Lowland Heathland

Q10 - Does the area contain protected sites?

- Yes
 - SSSI(9.01ha) Local Wildlife Site(48.82ha)

Q11 - If yes, which ones?

- SSSI
- Local wildlife site

Q12 - Approximately what proportion of the Aspect Area is within the protected site?

- 11-20%
 - 13.12%

Q13 - Does the area support important species?

- Yes

Q14 - If yes, which species? (for each of the species, also note the source of information)

- Bogbean (1961 record), Natterer's Bat, Pipistrelle bat sp., Brown Long-eared Bat, Lesser Pondweed, Three-lobed Crowfoot, Great Crested Newt, Blunt Pincerwort, Frogbit, Smooth Stonewort, Small Pondweed, Flat-leaved Bog-moss, Cleft Bog-moss (All records from Cofnod).

Q15 - Are there any significant threat species present in abundance? (Field visit required)

- Not known

Q16 - What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?

- No Answer

Q17 - Are any of these features in a very good condition? (Field visit required)

- Unknown

Q18 - Are any of these features in a poor condition? (Field visit required)

- Unknown

Q19 - What are the main land management activities taking place in the area? (Field visit required)

- Stock grazing

Q20 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable positive impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- None

Q21 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable negative impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
 - Certainly within the improved grassland areas stock grazing can prevent the habitat from reaching its full ecological potential. It is however recognised that this is an essential part of the farming process.

Q22 - Is the biodiversity in the area in any way threatened?

- Yes
 - Much of the more valuable areas of habitat (i.e. heath) are relatively small areas scattered within the improved grassland, it is a concern that these areas may be degraded by fertilisers that are being applied to the surrounding improved grassland areas.

Q23 - Are there clear opportunities to improve the biodiversity aspect of this area?

- No

Q24 - Summarise the key features that define this area's biodiversity character

- An area of improved grassland farmland with many areas of more valuable semi-natural habitats (acid grassland, dry heath, marshy grassland, semi-improved grassland etc.) scattered within it The rocky outcrops that are scattered throughout the Aspect Area are a particular feature of the area and add to the diversity greatly by containing areas of heath and scrub habitat.

Evaluation

Q25 - Value

- High
 - Quite difficult to evaluate because the area clearly contains many areas of valuable habitat scattered throughout reflected in the presence of some SSSI areas and a number of pSINC designation but 45% of the Aspect Area is improved grassland. Could easily be evaluated as moderate but the area does contain a good number of key species and the mosaic of different habitats does add to the value of the area. The Aspect Area has been evaluated as High but is on the borderline with moderate, if certain key species were lost or some of the areas of semi-natural habitat were lost then the evaluation would drop to moderate.

Q26 - Condition

- Unassessed

Q27 - Trend

- Constant

Recommendations

Q28 - Existing management

- Unassessed

Q29 - Existing management remarks:

- N/A

Q30 - Principal management recommendations

- Preserve the areas of semi-natural habitat within the improved grassland landscape.

Q31 - Guideline

- Long Term
 - Preserve the areas of semi-natural habitat within the improved grassland landscape.
- Medium Term
 - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.
- Medium Term

Aspect Area Boundary

Q32 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q33 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- Most
 - There is a noticeable patchwork of semi-natural habitats within the improved grassland landscape the Aspect Boundary has been digitised to include all these area, to do this by necessity small area of the boundary have been digitised to join these up along the shortest possible distance.

Q34 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- Other
 - Phase1 habitat, OS Raster, Aerial photographs.

Q35 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:10,000

Q36 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- There is a noticeable patchwork of semi-natural habitats within the improved grassland landscape the Aspect Boundary has been digitised to include all these areas to form an area that is distinct from the surrounding farmland which is dominated to a far higher degree by improved grassland. At the eastern and western end of the Aspect Area there are two more complete distinct wetland areas, these have not been included because they form separate Aspect Areas.

Evaluation Matrix

Q37 - Evaluation Criteria: Priority Habitats

- Moderate
 - 45% of the Aspect Area is improved grassland which is not Priority BAP habitat but there is a good selection of Priority BAP habitats scattered throughout the Aspect Area.

Q38 - Evaluation Criteria: Significance

- High
 - The mosaic of different habitats created within this Aspect Area is fairly unique so the significance is high.

Q39 - Evaluation Criteria: Opportunity

- Moderate
 - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.

Q40 - Evaluation Criteria: Expansion rates

- Unassessed

Q41 - Evaluation Criteria: Sensitivity

- Moderate
 - Intensification of farming could impact upon the mosaic of habitats present.

Q42 - Evaluation Criteria: Connectivity/Cohesion

- Moderate
 - The more valuable semi-natural habitat is scattered throughout the Aspect Area which to some degree reduces connectivity but they are generally quite close to each other thus acting like stepping stones. The whole Aspect Area is to some degree isolated within the wider improved grassland dominated landscape.

Q43 - Evaluation Criteria: Habitat Evaluation

- High
 - Contains a variety of important habitats, 45% is improved grassland which reduces value but the variety and mosaic of semi-natural habitats just about justifies the high evaluation.

Q44 - Evaluation Criteria: Importance for key species

- High
 - A good number of key species are present including Great Crested Newt.

Q45 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species

- High
 - Rated as high for both factors.

Q45a - Justification of overall evaluation

- Quite difficult to evaluate because the area clearly contains many areas of valuable habitat scattered throughout reflected in the presence of some SSSI areas and a number of pSINC designation but 45% of the Aspect Area is improved grassland. Could easily be evaluated as moderate but the area does contain a good number of key species and the mosaic of different habitats does add to the value of the area. the Aspect Area has been evaluated as High but is on the borderline with moderate, if certain key species were lost or some of the areas of semi-natural habitat were lost then the evaluation would drop to moderate.

Bibliography

Q46 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- CCW Phase 1 data (digitised), Aerial photographs (digitised), OS Raster (1:10,000), Protected species information from Cofnod, Protected sites information from CCW (digitised), SINC sites provided by Ynys Mon County Council and Cofnod (digitised), Invasive plant mapping provided by Cofnod, Ynys Mon LBAP, Ynys Mon Unitary Development Plan, Protected Sites citations (provided by CCW), Protected Sites citations from the JNCC website (www.jncc.gov.uk), Soils of England and Wales 1:250,000 (Sheet 2 Wales). Wildlife Site/SINC data used within this project were collated by Local Environmental Records Centres Wales on behalf of the various Local Authorities and Wildlife Trusts involved in the site designation process.

Assessment

Q47 - Additional Assessments

- N/A

Q48 - Additional Comments

- N/A

SURVEY DETAILS FOR YNSMNLH027 - 2024-04-25

Area Unique ID: YNSMNLH027

Aspect: Landscape Habitats

Area: Farmland - central Anglesey

Region: Anglesey

Survey Date: 2007-11-04

- Level 1: Dry (Relatively) Terrestrial Habitats
- Level 2: Grassland & Marsh
- Level 3: Improved Grassland

Monitoring

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2017-03-15

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Review of SINC/Wildlife Site data by TACP

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record remains unchanged following monitoring work

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No Answer

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- No

Q3 - What is the total land area within the boundary (in hectares)?

- 9114 hectares

Description

Q4 - What are the dominant soil types? (specify up to 3 types)

- Brown soils
- Surface-water gley soils

Q5 - What Phase 1 habitat types are present? Only select the five most dominant types and, for each of these, specify below what percentage of the Aspect Area is made up of these.

- Improved Grassland
 - 87%
- Marshy Grassland
 - 1%
- Buildings
 - 2%
- Arable
 - 3%
- Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland
 - 1%

Q6 - Does the area contain habitats of international importance?

- Yes

Q7 - If yes, which habitats of international importance?

- Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath
- Purple moor-grass meadows
- Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge
- Dry heaths

Q8 - Does the area contain BAP habitats?

- Yes

Q9 - If yes, which BAP habitats?

- Lowland Heathland
- Fens

Q10 - Does the area contain protected sites?

- Yes
 - LNR(0.18ha) NNR(3.54ha) RAMSAR(23.83ha) SAC(30.84ha) SSSI(48.04ha) Local Wildlife Site(123.09ha)

Q11 - If yes, which ones?

- LNR
- NNR
- Ramsar
- SAC
- SSSI
- Local wildlife site

Q12 - Approximately what proportion of the Aspect Area is within the protected site?

- 1-10%
 - 1.88%

Q13 - Does the area support important species?

- Yes

Q14 - If yes, which species? (for each of the species, also note the source of information)

- Medicinal Leech, Southern Damselfly, Marsh Fritillary, Brown Hare, Water Vole, Great Crested Newt, Brown Long-eared Bat, Whiskered Bat, Pipistrelle bat sp., European Otter, Whooper Swan, Barn Owl, Common Lizard, Marsh Helleborine, Bogbean, Vertigo (*Vertigo*) *geyeri*, Natterer's Bat, Northern Lapwing, Reed Bunting, Eurasian Curlew, Noctule Bat, Bluebell, Green-winged Orchid, Lesser Tussock-sedge, Tubular Water-dropwort, Small Pondweed, Prionocyphon serricornis, Lesser Water-plantain, *Stratiomys chamaeleon*, Frog Orchid, Green Hoar-moss, Marsh Stitchwort, Pale Dog-violet, Petty Whin, Green Hoar-moss, Frog Orchid, *Dolichopus plumipes*, *Dolichopus trivialis*, *Erioptera nielseni*, *Hydrochus elongatus*, *Hydrochus ignicollis*, Pale St John's-wort, *Lecanora conizaeoides* forma *conizaeoides*, *Pertusaria leioplaca*, *Pyrenula chlorospila*, *Pyrenula nitida* (records from Cofnod).

Q15 - Are there any significant threat species present in abundance? (Field visit required)

- Not known

Q16 - What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?

- No Answer

Q17 - Are any of these features in a very good condition? (Field visit required)

- Unknown

Q18 - Are any of these features in a poor condition? (Field visit required)

- Unknown

Q19 - What are the main land management activities taking place in the area? (Field visit required)

- Stock grazing

Q20 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable positive impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
 - Some level of grazing is important for management of habitats where Marsh Fritillary and Southern Damselfly are present (this is only a small part of Aspect Area however).

Q21 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable negative impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
 - Certainly within the improved grassland areas stock grazing can prevent the habitat from reaching its full ecological potential. It is however recognised that this is an essential part of the farming process.

Q22 - Is the biodiversity in the area in any way threatened?

- Yes
 - Much of the more valuable areas of habitat are relatively small areas scattered within the improved grassland, it is a concern that many of these could be lost by being swallowed up in to the wider improved grassland landscape. Various designations should help to protect many of these areas however.

Q23 - Are there clear opportunities to improve the biodiversity aspect of this area?

- Yes
 - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.

Q24 - Summarise the key features that define this area's biodiversity character

- An area of improved grassland farmland with areas of more valuable semi-natural habitats (particularly marshy grassland, broad-leaved woodland and most notably Fen) scattered within it.

Evaluation

Q25 - Value

- Moderate
 - Quite difficult to evaluate because the area is 87% improved grassland which is generally quite a low ecological value habitat but the area also clearly contains many areas of valuable habitat scattered throughout reflected in the presence of some pSINC, SSSI and most notably SAC areas, the area also supports a good number of key species although these records are generally confined to the aforementioned areas of particularly valuable habitat and it should also be noted that such a large Aspect Area should have more key species all things being equal. Could easily be evaluated as high for certain parts of it or even outstanding for very localised areas but on the other hand could be evaluated as low for many areas so overall evaluated as moderate.

Q26 - Condition

- Unassessed

Q27 - Trend

- Constant

Recommendations

Q28 - Existing management

- Unassessed

Q29 - Existing management remarks:

- N/A

Q30 - Principal management recommendations

- Preserve the areas of semi-natural habitat within the improved grassland landscape.

Q31 - Guideline

- Long Term
 - Preserve the areas of semi-natural habitat within the improved grassland landscape.
- Medium Term
 - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.
- Medium Term
 - Consider the key species needs in management decisions.

Aspect Area Boundary

Q32 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q33 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- Most
 - The Aspect Area boundary is quite complex to the west but basically it has been digitised along a number of roads to distinguish the area within this Aspect Area which has a noticeably greater number of marshy grassland and semi-improved grassland areas in it than the area to the west. The same applies to the north. The boundaries to the east are formed by the division between this Aspect Area and areas of an even greater noticeable % of semi-natural habitats again using road boundaries or some more significant wetland areas that are separate Aspect Areas.

Q34 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- Other
 - Phase1 habitat, OS Raster, Aerial photographs.

Q35 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:10,000

Q36 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- The Aspect Area comprises an area of improved grassland dominated farmland that has a noticeable marsh and semi-improved grassland element. The boundary is quite complex to the west but basically it has been digitised along a number of roads to distinguish the area within this Aspect Area which has a noticeably greater number of marshy grassland and semi-improved grassland areas in it than the area to the west. The same applies to the north. The boundaries to the east are formed by the division between this Aspect Area and areas of an even greater noticeable % of semi-natural habitats again using road boundaries or some more significant wetland areas that are separate Aspect Areas. The southern boundary is formed by the A5.

Evaluation Matrix

Q37 - Evaluation Criteria: Priority Habitats

- Low
 - 87% of the Aspect Area is improved grassland which is not Priority BAP habitat so evaluated as low despite there being some small areas of Priority BAP habitats scattered throughout the Aspect Area.

Q38 - Evaluation Criteria: Significance

- Moderate
 - Improved grassland is ubiquitous throughout lowland Wales so should be evaluated as low but the selection of pSINC areas and small SAC and SSSI areas just about increase overall significance to moderate.

Q39 - Evaluation Criteria: Opportunity

- Moderate
 - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.

Q40 - Evaluation Criteria: Expansion rates

- Unassessed

Q41 - Evaluation Criteria: Sensitivity

- Moderate
 - Intensification of farming could impact upon the mosaic of habitats present.

Q42 - Evaluation Criteria: Connectivity/Cohesion

- Unassessed

Q43 - Evaluation Criteria: Habitat Evaluation

- Low
 - Contains a number of important habitats, 87% is improved grassland which reduces value however. Some small specific areas are probably worthy of outstanding evaluation i.e. small SAC areas the vast majority of the Aspect Area is quite unremarkable improved grassland however.

Q44 - Evaluation Criteria: Importance for key species

- Moderate
 - A large number of key species are present so could be evaluated as high but it must be remembered that the Aspect Area is quite large and a number of these records are confined to quite small areas within the Aspect Area.

Q45 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species

- Moderate
 - Rated as low (but with some very important areas) for habitats and moderate for key species so evaluated as moderate overall.

Q45a - Justification of overall evaluation

- Quite difficult to evaluate because the area is 87% improved grassland which is generally quite a low ecological value habitat but the area also clearly contains many areas of valuable habitat scattered throughout reflected in the presence of some pSINC, SSSI and most notably SAC areas, the area also supports a good number of key species although these records are generally confined to the aforementioned areas of particularly valuable habitat and it should also be noted that such a large Aspect Area should have more key species all things being equal. Could easily be evaluated as high for certain parts of it or even outstanding for very localised areas but on the other hand could be evaluated as low for many areas so overall evaluated as moderate.

Bibliography

Q46 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- CCW Phase 1 data (digitised), Aerial photographs (digitised), OS Raster (1:10,000), Protected species information from Cofnod, Protected sites information from CCW (digitised), SINC sites provided by Ynys Mon County Council and Cofnod (digitised), Invasive plant mapping provided by Cofnod, Ynys Mon LBAP, Ynys Mon Unitary Development Plan, Protected Sites citations (provided by CCW), Protected Sites citations from the JNCC website (www.jncc.gov.uk), Soils of England and Wales 1:250,000 (Sheet 2 Wales). Wildlife Site/SINC data used within this project were collated by Local Environmental Records Centres Wales on behalf of the various Local Authorities and Wildlife Trusts involved in the site designation process.

Assessment

Q47 - Additional Assessments

- N/A

Q48 - Additional Comments

- N/A

SURVEY DETAILS FOR YNSMNLH031 - 2024-04-25

Area Unique ID: YNSMNLH031

Aspect: Landscape Habitats

Area: Farmland - N. Anglesey

Region: Anglesey

Survey Date: 2007-11-02

- Level 1: Dry (Relatively) Terrestrial Habitats
- Level 2: Grassland & Marsh
- Level 3: Improved Grassland

Monitoring

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2016-01-15

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Stages 1, 2 and 3 change detection, field verification and amendment completed by Environment Systems in conjunction with the local planning authority. Quality Assurance completed by TACP.

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record remains unchanged following monitoring work

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- Yes
 - In part

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- No

Q3 - What is the total land area within the boundary (in hectares)?

- 3106 hectares

Description

Q4 - What are the dominant soil types? (specify up to 3 types)

- Brown soils
- Surface-water gley soils

Q5 - What Phase 1 habitat types are present? Only select the five most dominant types and, for each of these, specify below what percentage of the Aspect Area is made up of these.

- Arable
 - 5%
- Buildings
 - 3%
- Semi-improved Neutral Grassland
 - 1%
- Improved Grassland
 - 86%
- Marshy Grassland
 - 1%

Q6 - Does the area contain habitats of international importance?

- Not known

Q7 - If yes, which habitats of international importance?

- No Answer

Q8 - Does the area contain BAP habitats?

- Not known

Q9 - If yes, which BAP habitats?

- No Answer

Q10 - Does the area contain protected sites?

- Yes
 - SSSI(0.51ha) Local Wildlife Site(19.75ha)

Q11 - If yes, which ones?

- SSSI
- Local wildlife site

Q12 - Approximately what proportion of the Aspect Area is within the protected site?

- 1-10%
 - 0.65%

Q13 - Does the area support important species?

- Yes

Q14 - If yes, which species? (for each of the species, also note the source of information)

- Pipistrelle bat sp., Brown Long-eared Bat, Three-lobed Crowfoot, Great Crested Newt, Northern Lapwing (Cofnod records).

Q15 - Are there any significant threat species present in abundance? (Field visit required)

- Not known

Q16 - What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?

- Streams

Q17 - Are any of these features in a very good condition? (Field visit required)

- Some
 - Afon Wygyr is designated as a pSINC.

Q18 - Are any of these features in a poor condition? (Field visit required)

- Unknown

Q19 - What are the main land management activities taking place in the area? (Field visit required)

- Stock grazing

Q20 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable positive impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- None

Q21 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable negative impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
 - Stock grazing can prevent the habitat from reaching its full ecological potential. It is however recognised that this is an essential part of the farming process.

Q22 - Is the biodiversity in the area in any way threatened?

- Not known

Q23 - Are there clear opportunities to improve the biodiversity aspect of this area?

- Yes
 - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.

Q24 - Summarise the key features that define this area's biodiversity character

- An area of farmland that is largely improved grassland with a noticeable arable element as well but limited semi-natural habitat.

Evaluation

Q25 - Value

- Low
 - The Aspect Area is largely improved grassland with a noticeable arable element as well, neither of these are generally particularly valuable ecological habitat. There are limited areas of more valuable semi-natural habitat present (although small parts of three pSINCS close to the coast and Afon Wygyr pSINC are present).

Q26 - Condition

- Unassessed

Q27 - Trend

- Constant