

Colliery Spoil Habitat Assessment Form

Email your results to wales@buglife.org.uk



Please enter the following details about the colliery spoil site you have visited:

Date of Survey:
Surveyor Name (person/group/school):
Site Name:
Site Owner (if known):
Postcode or OS grid reference of the place (if known):
Contact e-mail address:

Which best describes the survey access to the site? Tick one.

Full access ☐ Part access ☐ Viewed from site boundary ☐
From public right of way ☐ Other ☐

What is the overall aspect of the site? Tick one.

North ☐ South ☐ East ☐ West ☐ Not sure ☐

Are any of the following water features present? Tick all that apply.

Stream ☐ Ditches ☐ Ponds ☐ Lake (Greater than 2 ha) ☐
Temporary pools ☐ Reedbed ☐ Other ☐

Are any of the following vegetation types present? Tick all that apply.

Bare ground ☐ Sparse vegetation ☐ Lichens ☐ Mosses ☐

Is the site well-used by local people? Yes ☐ No ☐

Current activity. Tick all that apply.

Fly-tipping ☐ Grazing by livestock ☐ BMX / Mountain biking ☐ Dog walking ☐
Horse riding ☐ Off-road motorcycling / 4x4s ☐

Do you have any other comments?

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Did you see any of the following invertebrates? Tick all that apply.



Bilberry bumblebee
(*Bombus monticola*)

April to September

Over half of the abdomen orange/red and there are also two lemon yellow bands on the thorax.



Dingy skipper butterfly
(*Erynnis tages*)

May to June

Small and moth-like. Grey-brown wings with mottled brown markings and two rows of small white spots.



Grayling butterfly
(*Hipparchia semele*)

July to September

Forewings are mainly dark brown and orange, with an intricate grey and black pattern on the hind wings.



Common blue butterfly
(*Polyommatus icarus*)

May to September

Males are conspicuous with their violet-blue wings, finely edged with clear, white wing markings.



Green tiger beetle
(*Cicindela campestris*)

April to September

Large, metallic-green beetle with purple-bronze legs and eyes, and creamy spots on the wing cases.



Golden-ringed dragonfly
(*Cordulegaster boltonii*)

May to September

The thorax and abdomen are black with yellow bands. Adults also have green eyes.

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Did you see any of the following vegetation? Tick all that apply.



Bird's-foot-trefoil
(*Lotus spp.*)

May to September

A low-creeping, perennial plant with clusters of deep, yellow flowers tinged with orange/red.



Ling heather
(*Calluna vulgaris*)

July to September

A bushy, dwarf shrub with stems packed with tiny green leaves and pink/purple coloured flowers.



Carline thistle
(*Carlina vulgaris*)

July to September

A spiny biennial plant with distinctive brown and golden flower heads that look like a thistle that's gone to seed.



Southern-marsh orchid
(*Dactylorhiza praetermissa*)

May to July

A purple-pink orchid with leaves that are generally un-marked. Identification can be difficult due to hybridisation with Common spotted-orchid.



Yellow composites
(Asteraceae)

March to October

Dandelion-like perennials with dense, round yellow flower heads. Examples include Coltsfoot, Cat's-ear, Mouse-ear hawkweed, Hawk's-beards and Hawkbits.



Yellow / white umbellifers
(Apiaceae)

May to September

Characterised by their parasol - shaped umbels, made up of many tiny flowers held on short flower stalks. Examples include Cow parsley, Pignut, Wild carrot and Hogweed.

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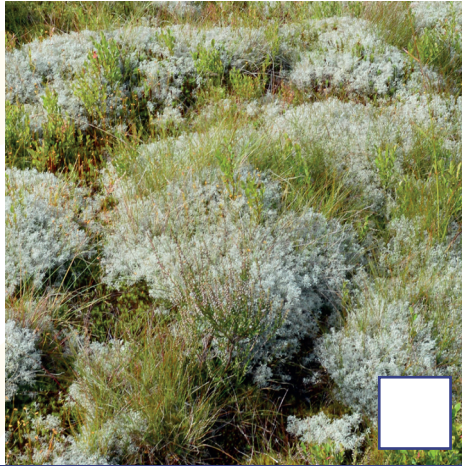
Did you see any of the following? Tick all that apply.



Cladonia Lichens
(*Cladonia spp.*)

January to December

A large genus of lichens that includes species more commonly referred to as 'cup lichens' as well as more bushier species referred to as 'reindeer moss'. The podetia (stalks) of some species are unbranched and taper to a point, while others are often tipped with red or brown (e.g. Devil's matchstick). *Cladonia* lichens are often encountered on the ground amongst heathers.



Bog / Peat mosses
(*Sphagnum spp.*)

January to December

These 'bog-mosses' grow closely together, forming spongy 'living carpets' in wet places. They range in colour from red and pink, to orange and green.



Fly agaric fungus
(*Amanita muscaria*)

August to November

A classic fairy tale toadstool, it has a red cap with white wart-like spots and white gills. It is often found beneath birch trees in autumn.



Blackening waxcap fungus
(*Hygrocybe conica*)

July to November

A variable grassland fungus with moist, sharply conical caps that soon turn black all over, usually from the centre of the cap. They can remain standing for many weeks.



Cobalt crust fungus
(*Terana caerulea*)

January to December

A thin crust fungus that is instantly recognisable owing to its bright cobalt-blue colour. It can be found on various trees and shrubs including willows and gorse.