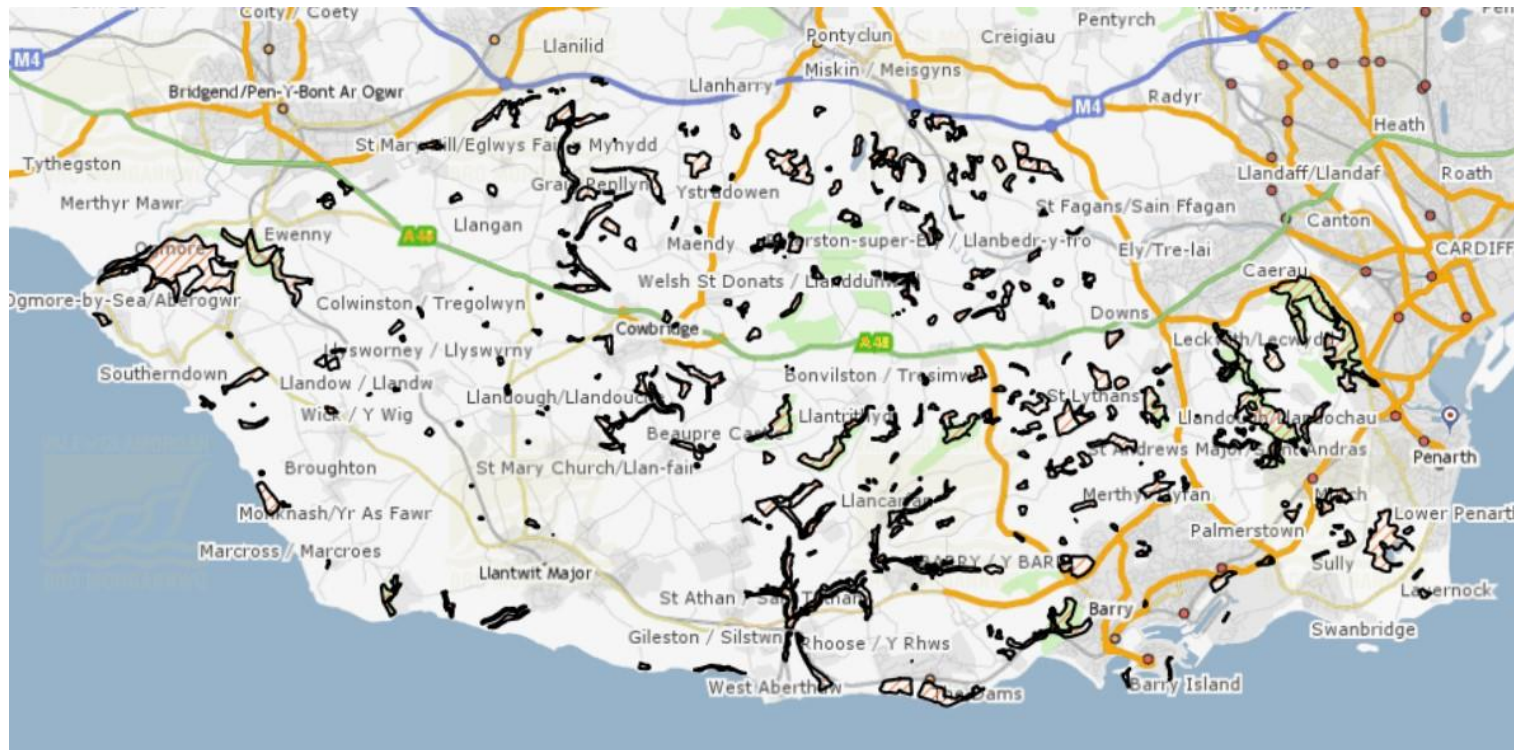


Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation



Colin Cheesman, County Ecologist, Vale of Glamorgan Council

Wildlife Sites Guidance Wales
A Guide to Develop Local Wildlife Systems in Wales

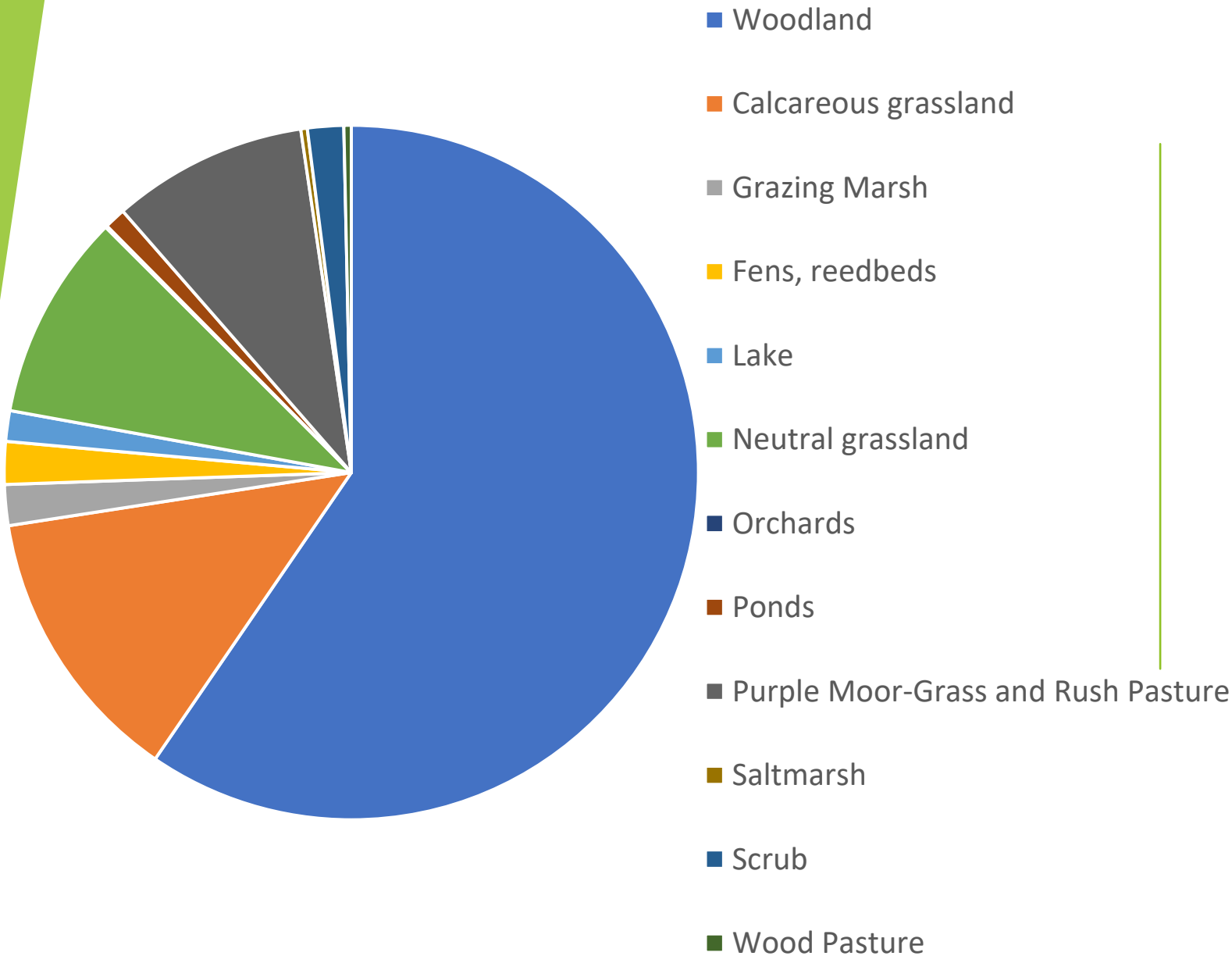


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WALES BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

Also referred to as Wildlife Sites and sometimes as Sites of Nature Conservation Importance

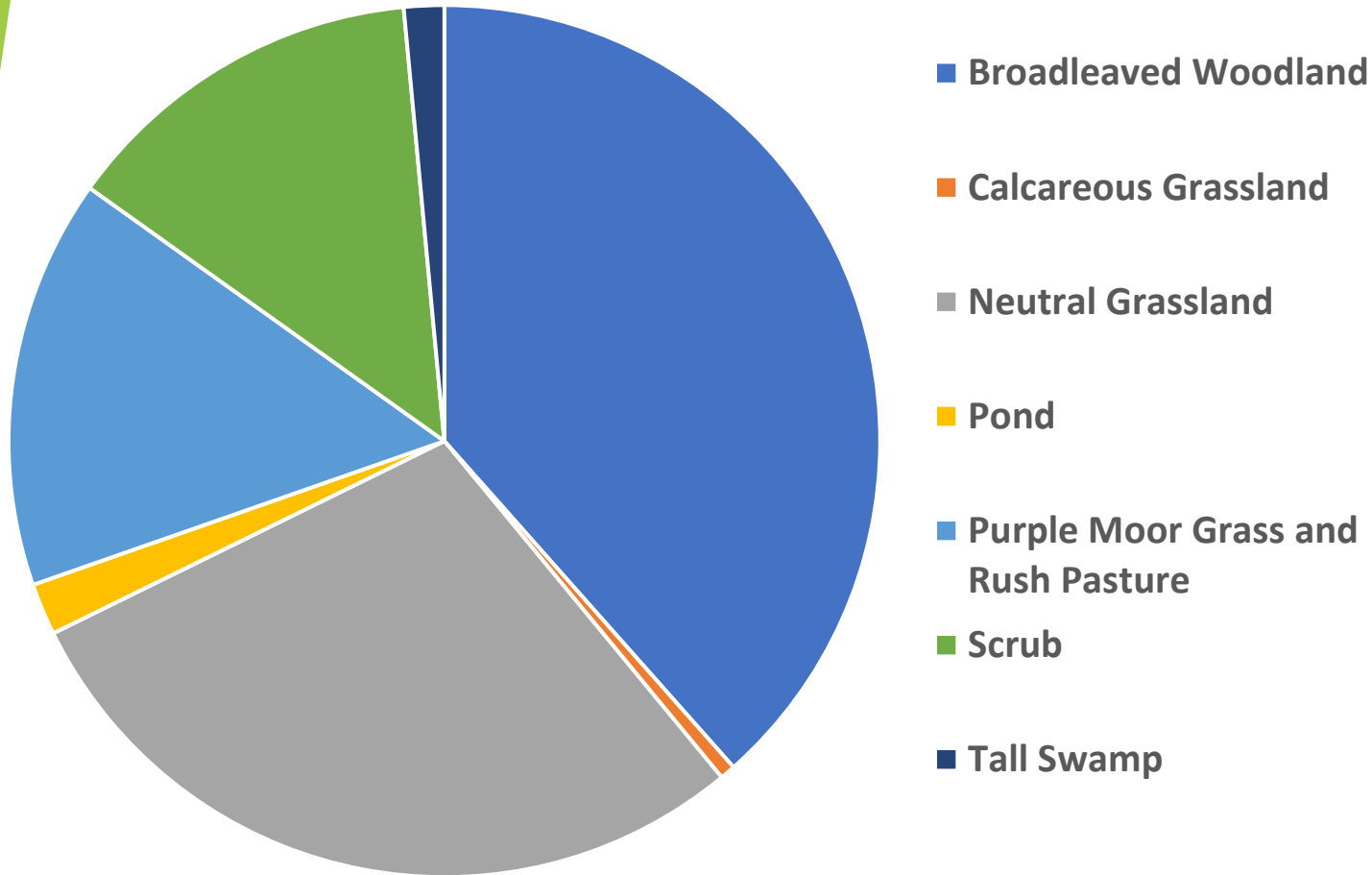
Commonly regarded as the 'third tier sites' as only have impact through the planning system

Designated using criteria which in South Wales was developed in 2008



Vale has 363
SINCs following a
survey in 2009

Cover 6.85% of
the land surface
of the Vale
(SSSI's cover
2.83%)



Resurveyed in
2023 as part of
the updating of
the Local
Development
Plan

37 sites no
longer meet
criteria - 140 ha.



Reasons for losses

Felling/forestry operations

Overgrazing

Ploughing

Neglect

Scrub invasion



Candidate SINC's

11 put forward for consideration

8 met the criteria

Adds 15.2 ha.

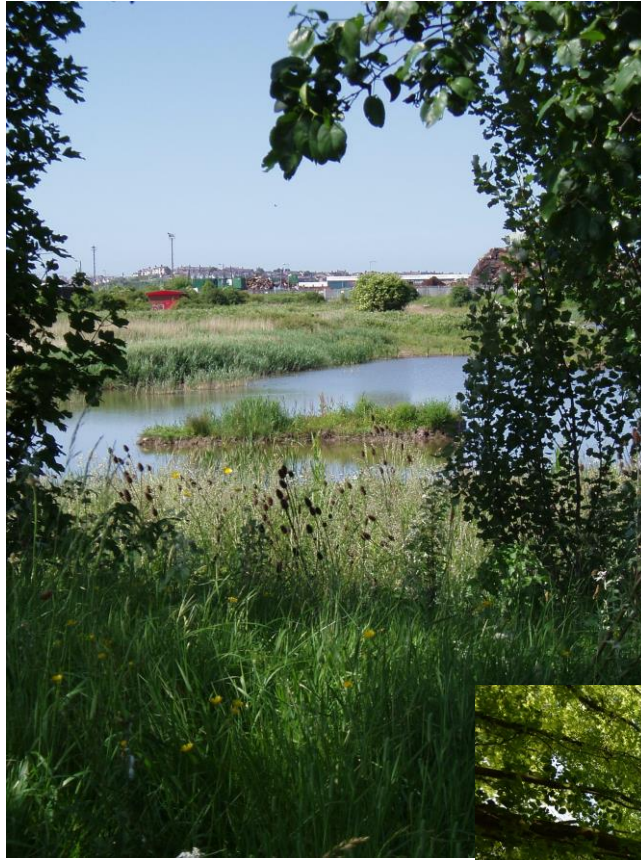


What next?

SINC Panel for independent verification

eDNA and survey of Great Crested Newt SINC ponds this year

Coastal and Marine SINC criteria and designation



Observations

Could more proactive management of SINC's help meet the 30x30 target?

Does Ash dieback give opportunities for diversification in unmanaged closed canopy woodlands?



Thank you
Any questions?

Colin Cheesman, County Ecologist, Vale of Glamorgan Council

